



3rd May 2022

Dear Students and Parents,

I do hope that this letter finds you well. It is great to see that the students have settled back into school life after the Easter break with a renewed energy and determination.

Students have received their summer examination timetables this week and so can now plan in earnest their revision schedule for the remaining weeks leading up to the examinations.

I have written to you before regarding the process for celebrating the end of year 11 and also the support we will continue to offer your child once the examinations begin in May. This letter now contains some additional information for you to help support your child in the coming months.

GCSE examinations begin on the 16th May and will finish on the 28th June. Your child will be able to use their individual examination timetable to prioritise their revision and form their own personal revision timetables.

Year 11 will rejoice in the end of formal lessons on Friday 13th May with a morning of celebration.

The morning will see students arrive in fancy dress or mufti, celebrate with their tutors and Head of Year in a special assembly, this will then be followed by some entertainment on the playground, perhaps in the form of a bouncy castle. There will also be an opportunity for subject teaching staff to celebrate with the students at breaktime before the students are dismissed from school at 12 noon.

From the 16th May, we strongly recommend that students attend school as normal. Teachers will be available in line with the usual school timetable to work with students to ensure that they are in the best possible position to perform to their full potential in the examinations in May/June. Staff will have past paper questions on hand to work through with students as well as other revision material to help support students. Staff will also be able to answer bespoke questions that students might come into school with, after revising independently. Students are strongly encouraged to attend lessons when they do not have an examination in order to maximise the support that subject specialists can provide. Teachers will be on hand



right up to the day of the very last examination which will take place on the 28th June for some students.

Teachers will of course allow students to revise independently within their lessons, for example if your child has a science examination that afternoon or the next day, and wants to revise for the science examination in say, a French lesson, that will be supported fully.

Some students might feel that studying at home is the best way for them to prepare for the examinations and we will of course support this. We will request however, that parents complete a form to state that they give their permission for this to happen. This is an OPT OUT period for students. We will assume attendance for all students unless parents have opted out.

OPT OUT LINK from 16th May to half term

<https://forms.office.com/r/1ZX7vKpUrD>

Attendance at school is expected up until the May half term for all lessons unless your child has an examination. Attendance will still be monitored by our attendance officer and parents will continue to be contacted up to the May half term if their child is not present.

After the half term, attendance will no longer be monitored by the school in the same way as the examinations are far more frequent and students might feel that revising at home in the morning before an afternoon examination is the best way for them to prepare. Likewise, going home after an examination that has been sat in the morning may also be the best way of supporting your child's wellbeing during the examination period. However, teachers will continue to be on hand in school to work with any students who wish to continue to attend lessons and maximise the support we can offer students right up to the 28th June.

Parents are therefore asked to complete this second form to indicate when their child would like to take advantage of the support that teachers can provide. This is an OPT IN period of time. We will assume students are not attending school (unless they have an examination) and will therefore not contact parents for non-attendance, unless parents have completed the second form below.



OPT IN LINK for after May half term

<https://forms.office.com/r/3Vg1LU2u2N>

Please complete both links by the end of the school day on Wednesday the 11th May

In addition to the support teachers will offer students with their studies we will also be supporting the students prepare for their examinations by opening up the Refectory for breakfasts. A small but healthy range of breakfasts will be on offer in the Refectory on those days where we have large numbers sitting examinations, such as the days when all students will be studying Mathematics, English and Science, and also for large option subjects such as History, Geography and Modern Languages. More information on the menu, prices and dates when the Refectory will be open will follow.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mr Law, the Head of Year, if you have any questions or queries.

Yours sincerely

Miss Donna Roughton
Assistant Headteacher