



**Year 11 Easter Edition**

Welcome to our third exam special, where we address some common issues that occur each year as students approach final exams.

**Exam Timetables**

Personal examination timetables giving subject, date and time for all exams have been issued to students. We recommend these are displayed prominently at home—occasionally we have had to wake students from their slumbers to get them in to their exam! Copies can be re-printed if one has been lost, though a small charge may be made.

**Revision Timetables**

We strongly recommend students fill in revision timetables. They should sit down before Easter and plan out their time over the Easter vacation. Two weekly planners are enclosed with this newsletter.

We suggest:

- There should be days when relaxing, and socialising take priority. Some whole days off study are desirable
- A minimum of 3 hours per subject should be aimed for.
- Subjects should be written on the revision planner, and where appropriate the precise tasks that need doing should be noted.

**Revision Guides**

A revision booklet was issued to all students on 27 March. This includes specific advice on revision for each subject. A booklet with advice on each exam will be issued early next term.

Considerable work has gone into the production of this booklet. We hope students will make full use of these, and that parents and carers will read them and support the revision programme.



**The Final Term**

We return to school on **Monday 16 April** with four and a half weeks left to the first exam. For those weeks, lessons will be concentrating on completion of courses and revision. We will do our best to make

revision stimulating, interesting and varied. Many lessons will use past papers to provide exam practice, as will associated homeworks. It is very important to do these when set, to gain maximum benefit from the lessons where discussion and review will take place.

Closer to the exams a special timetable will run where there will be an exam briefing and revision sessions for specific exams the next day.

Normal timetable will continue interrupted by the first few examinations and relevant revision sessions. Full attendance will be expected for these days.

On Thursday 24 May there will be a special programme. Students will be invited to attend in smart, non-uniform, and in the morning there will be a special assembly and a break-time reception. A photo session will take place at lunchtime, and a special Year 11 lunch will be provided free, and served by members of staff. The afternoon will close with a review of the year, and presentation of progress files, and the Year 11 yearbook.

Friday will be a personal planning day. We expect students to use the day to plan their revision programmes for half term and until the end of the exams. Students may come to school for assistance with this, or those who have demonstrated good study skills in recent weeks may choose to carry out the process at home.

After half term normal timetable will be suspended. Attendance will not be compulsory other than for exams, but a timetable of revision lessons will be produced, and supervised private study facilities will be made available for those who prefer to study at home.

Full details of revision arrangements for the final weeks will be issued on 8 May.

**Countdown**

Week	Exams	Leaving
26 Mar	-5	-9
2 Apr	Easter	
9 Apr		
16	-4	-8
23	-3	-7
30	-2	-6
7 May	-1	-5
14	0	-4
Wed 16	1st Exam	
21	1	-3
28	Half term	
4 June	2	-2
11	3	-1
18	4	0
22		END!

### Exam Regulations.

Students will be given a full exam briefing on 8 May (prior to their first major exam)

Some key points:

- If a student is absent from an exam without good cause, their result is likely to be a U (unclassified), and a bill for the exam entry will be sent home. GCSE exams cost £23-£25.75 per subject.
- The only acceptable reason for absence is on medical grounds. A doctor's note must be provided as evidence.
- If a student is unwell but can still attend, they should do so. A special consideration form will be submitted
- If a student is late for an exam, they may not be allowed to enter the exam hall, depending on the time of arrival.

### School Regulations

School regulations remain in force during the exams. Normal standards of behaviour are expected throughout the exams. Normal sanctions will be taken against any offenders.

We are currently considering whether to make school uniform optional during the exams. Students have expressed good arguments both for and against relaxing the uniform rules over the exam period: we will consider these views over the coming weeks, as well as monitoring attitude and adherence to uniform rules leading up to the exams before making our final decision.

### Special Events The Year 11 "Prom"

The final year of compulsory education is a major landmark in young peoples' lives. In recent years we have established a tradition of celebrating this landmark with an evening event held towards the end of Year 11, organised by the Head Boy and Girl and their deputies. This year the event is planned for Wednesday 23 May (there are no exams on the Thursday or Friday following). The event will be a disco in the West Wing Hall, and students in recent years have excelled themselves by dressing up for the occasion in their suits, ballgowns and evening dress.

### Orals and Practicals

French oral exams take place on 8 and 9 May and German on 10 May. They are conducted by our own staff, but in strict exam conditions. These are very time-consuming tests, and it is vital that students attend at their allotted time, punctually and fully prepared.

PE (GCSE) practicals will be on **Mon 30 April & Tues 1 May.**

Music will take place **fortnightly** in allocated recording lessons with Mrs Kettlewell and Mrs Smith.

#### Jargon buster: Past papers

We have access to a number of previous year's exam papers, and these serve as good practice when preparing for exams.

They may be used either by selecting questions on particular topics, or they may be given as a whole. Whatever, it is vital that students make full use of this resource—answering all questions, and completing for the deadlines set.

### Reminders from Issue 2 Part time Work

- Keep it to a minimum; reduce if possible;
- Don't take on any more,
- Keep it in balance—never use it as an excuse for not completing work

#### Holidays

Please, no holidays until after final exam

#### Coursework

This will be finished in most areas by Easter.  
Deadlines in some subjects are for after Easter

#### Leaving Date

This is set for Friday 29 June. Students must have returned all books on this day and have completed a leavers sheet on or before this day.

Right you lot. Wake up!  
Time for revision

