

October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11 have just started what will be one of their most important years of their education. The student's approach, attitude to learning along with an effective daily revision programme and attending school every day will determine their success in the exams in the summer 2024. The following explains what we have in place to support students this year.

Morning mastery

Each morning at 8:18am students receive an expert session / lecture on the following subjects: English, science, Spanish, maths, RE, history / geography, a different subject each morning. The focus of these sessions is revision of gaps and exam technique based on how students performed in the year 10 Cycle 3 assessments and preparation for the mock exams in November. Punctuality to the academy, arriving by 8:15am and being in the theatre by 8:18am ensures that students are not missing important messages related to these subjects.

Study prep

Study prep takes place in the afternoon and is an opportunity for students to do some independent revision, modelling what they should be doing at home on an evening and at weekends and to gain some support from form tutors. In the lead up to the exams in November we are taking the opportunity to support the students with additional Maths on a Tuesday and Wednesday for all students and some targeted intervention for some students in English on a Thursday and Friday. We will evaluate this provision after the mock exams and use this time to put in place any additional support the students need.

Personal Development Studies (PDS)

During PDS this year the form tutors will support the students with their CVs, study skills and revision techniques.

Targeted Revision workshops

Targeted sessions are usually by invite only but please encourage your child to speak to their teacher or Head of Department if they would like to attend. If your child receives a letter asking them to attend a session after school, then please support the attendance as the session will be based on gaps in knowledge and / or skills the student has.

November Mock Exams

See the timetable attached for the mock exams starting with the Spanish speaking exam on Tuesday 7 November. This is an opportunity for students to rehearse, to see how effective their planning, revision and exam techniques are. It is also an opportunity for them to find out where their areas for improvement are so they can really focus their preparation for the next stage. In maths, science and Spanish students will also try out the tier of paper they might be entered for; higher or foundation. It is important that the teachers get this right so that students are not disadvantaged by being entered for the wrong tier. Students wanting to be entered for higher must show that they are at least a 4+ to be confidently entered for that tier. Entries for the examinations and tiers are completed in February. It is really important students don't see these exams as 'just mocks'. Preparation for these exams is part of the preparation for the summer. The grades achieved from these exams will also be used when the form tutors' complete references for the students for post 16 applications.

Students need to sit the exams as scheduled on the timetable as they would in the summer as exams cannot be rearranged. They need to be fully equipped for both the mock and the real exams with the correct equipment. They need a clear plastic pencil case or clear plastic wallet; two black pens, two pencils, eraser, pencil sharpener, ruler, calculator with fresh batteries for the maths, science, geography and DT exams along with any other specialist equipment.

Access arrangements for exams, all students were assessed in year 10 for any access arrangements needed to support them with exams such as extra time, coloured paper etc. It is important that if they have an access arrangement, they show evidence of needing it. If it is not used, then it will be deemed as not needed and will therefore be taken away.



Mock results session

Thursday 7 December, students will receive their results as they would their real exam results in August 2024. Students will then reflect and review how they have done and put an action plan together for what they need to improve in the lead up to the Easter mock exams and then in the real examinations.

Parent Consultation evening – Tuesday 12 December

This is an important evening to find out from all subject teachers your child's strengths and areas for improvement along with discussing how those improvements can be made. If you have any concerns that won't wait until that evening, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's form tutor.

IT and Sport Studies

If your child studies sport and / or IT, they will have an exam on 10 January for sport at 8:30am and 15 January for IT at 1:20pm. Please support your child with a programme of revision so they can be successful in these exams.

February Mock Exams – Term 4, end of February / March

A timetable for the February / March mock exams will be sent out in January. This will be the final opportunity for students to rehearse prior to the exams starting in May.

Public Examinations - Monday 13 May 2024

The exam season starts on Monday 13 May 2024; however, some exams are scheduled to take place before this date. The 10-hour Art exam will take place over several lessons during April and will be communicated to students in January. The Spanish speaking assessments usually take place in the first week of May and individual times will be communicated to students.

Careers Advice and Guidance – Post 16

As well as all the above we will be supporting students through their transition to post 16. We hope most students will be applying to the Dixons Sixth form. The open evenings for D6A are 19 October and 28 November 5:00-7:30pm, please see the website for more details, <https://www.dixons6a.com/>. It is important that students are doing their research and considering their options after year 11. Karen Hodgson (Careers Advisor) or Mr Lorryman (Head of Careers) are available for support. All students will have a 1 to 1 appointment with the Careers Advisor. Students can also refer themselves for an appointment for further support. Karen is in on a Thursday and based in the library. Students also have access to Unifrog which is great for looking at post 16 options and career choices.

On 1 February 2024, all students will be having a mock interview with an external company called Driver Hire. This is an annual event for year 11 and is hugely successful. Further information to follow nearer the time. In preparation for this, students are currently working on their CV's.

Private Tutors

We are sometimes asked about private tutors or parents organise 1 to 1 tuition during year 11. In some cases, the experience is that a tutor is not needed and may not have the impact required. Sometimes students with a tutor feel because they have a tutor no other independent revision is needed. Attending school every day and working hard with a can-do attitude showing determination and having a regular programme of independent revision along with attending any sessions in school is what works in most instances. Tutors are useful where 1 to 1 helps to work on specific subject gaps. Students must still follow an independent revision programme.

We will keep you up to date with other revision workshops and interventions that are organised throughout the year. If you have any queries about any of the above or would like to discuss your child's progress and strategies for this year then please contact your child's form tutor or Mr Thacker, Head of Year 11.

Yours sincerely



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Senior Vice Principal
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Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable – November 2023

	Monday 13 November	Tuesday 14 November	Wednesday 15 November	Thursday 16 November	Friday 17 November
8:30am	Maths Paper 1 Non-Calculator 1 hour 30 minutes	Science Paper 1 Biology Combined - 1 hour 15 minutes Triple - 1 hour 45 minutes	Spanish Reading paper Foundation (F) 45 minutes Higher (H) 1 hour Spanish Listening paper F 35 minutes H 45 minutes	DT 2 hours Computer Science Paper 1 1 hour 30 minutes	English Language Paper 2 1 hour 45 minutes
11:00am		Sport Studies 1 hour			
1:20pm	English Literature 1 hour 45 minutes	Geography Paper 1 1 hour 30 minutes History 1 hour 45 minutes	Science Paper 1 Chemistry Combined - 1 hour 15 minutes Triple - 1 hour 45 minutes	RE 1 hour 45 minutes	Music – A27 1 hour 45 minutes Computer Science Paper 1 Clashes 1 hour 30 minutes Geography Paper 1 Clashes 1 hour 30 minutes

	Monday 20 November	Tuesday 21 November	Wednesday 22 November
8:30am	English Language Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes	Geography Paper 2 1 hour 30 minutes	Maths Paper 3 Calculator 1 hour 30 minutes
11:00am		Spanish Writing paper F – 1 hour H – 1 hour 15 minutes	
1:20pm	Maths Paper 2 Calculator 1 hour 30 minutes	Computer Science Paper 2 1 hour 30 minutes Drama 1 hour 30 minutes	Science Paper 1 Physics Combined - 1 hour 15 minutes Triple - 1 hour 45 minutes

Exam Equipment *(in clear pencil case / plastic wallet)*

- 2 Black pens.
- 2 Pencils sharpened.
- Ruler and eraser.
- Protractor and compass.
- Calculator (Maths, DT, Geography and Science).
- You can take a drink of water in a clear bottle (no writing, no labels).
- Any other subject specific equipment.

Spanish Speaking Exams – Tuesday to Thursday 7 to 9 November.
Your Spanish teacher will let you know about timings.

Art Exam

- Wednesday 29 November Option Q group.
- Thursday 30 November Option P group.

Drama controlled assessment – Wednesday 8 November.

Year 11 Revision Timetable - Cycle 1 November mock exams

Subject Week beginning	English	Maths	Science	Geography	History	Art	Computer Science
11 September 2023	Paper 2 - unseen texts.	1. Fractions and Percentages (ALL)	Bonding-Ionic, covalent and metallic	Revise topic content, but also map, graph and math skills	Early Modern period migrants	Refining and researching plan for next steps Ideas exploration Ideas development and	
18 September 2023	Paper 2 - Unseen texts - comparison.	1. Fractions and Percentages (ALL)	Bonding-Ionic, covalent and metallic	Climate change	How Elizabeth kept control and power.	Ideas development and testing	1.1 System Architecture
25 September 2023	Paper 2 - Reading Section.	2. Solving Equations (ALL)	Radioactivity and half-life	Coastal processes	Industrial period migrants	Final idea planning	1.2 Memory and storage
02 October 2023	Paper 2 - Writing Section.	3. Standard Index Form and Indices (ALL)	Enzymes and the digestive system	river processes	1900 to present day migrants	Final outcome recording and checking sketchbook	1.3 Networks
09 October 2023	Paper 1 - Reading Section.	4. Averages - Mean, median mode and range from table (ALL).	Acids and alkalis	Tropical Rainforests	1900 to present day migrants	Sketchbook refining and improving	1.4 Network security
16 October 2023	Paper 1 - Writing Section.	5. $y = mx + c$ (ALL)	Electrical circuits	Nigeria	Medieval migrants period	Sketchbook refining and improving	1.5 Systems software
23 October 2023	Pre-1900 Prose study - Jekyll and Hyde / A Christmas Carol.	6. Angles on parallel lines (ALL) /Circle theorems (H only)	Photosynthesis and respiration	Rio	Daily life during the Elizabethan period	Drawing skills	1.6 Impact of technology
30 October 2023	Pre-1900 Prose study - Jekyll and Hyde / A Christmas Carol.	7. Transformations of shapes - reflection, rotation, enlargement, translation and invariance (H only)	Chemical calculations	UK resources	Daily life during the Elizabethan period	Drawing skills	2.1 Algorithms
06 November 2023	Macbeth - exam technique.	8. Bearings and Constructions (ALL)	Electrical circuits-equations and required practicals	Energy	How Elizabeth kept control and power.	Exploring Identity to plan next steps	2.2 / 2.3 Programming

Year 11 Revision Ti

Subject Week beginning	Drama	DT	H&SC	IT	Sport	Music
11 September 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.			Barriers to participation	Defying Gravity
18 September 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	Coursework to complete - revision N/A		Barriers to participation	Dr T Smith
25 September 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	Coursework to complete - revision N/A	Revise component 2, data, information and excel formulas.	Solutions to barriers	Bach
02 October 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	Coursework to complete - revision N/A	Revise component 2, data, information and excel formulas.	Solutions to barriers	Queen
09 October 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	Coursework to complete - revision N/A	Revise component 2, data, information and excel formulas.	Barriers to participation	Beethoven
16 October 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	Coursework to complete - revision N/A	Revise component 2, data, information and excel formulas.	Barriers to participation	Purcell
23 October 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	1.1 Types of care settings		Solutions to barriers	Afro Celt
30 October 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	1.2 The rights of service users	Component 3, revise modern technology, computer attacks.	Solutions to barriers	Samba Em P
06 November 2023	Drama Revision Booklet	Unit 6 and 7 in the DT 100% book.	1.3 The benefits to service users' health and wellbeing when their rights are	Component 3, revise the different reasons businesses get attacked.	Solutions to barriers	Star Wars