

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

We are pleased to welcome Year 11 students back to the Academy after the summer break and we are looking forward to a busy but productive year.

We are writing to you with some key information about the next few months, which will be useful in enabling you to support your child. We want to ensure, as you do, that your child achieves the very best grades possible next summer to give them as many options for further education, training or employment after Year 11.

Year 11 'Period 6 Sessions'

Period 6 sessions are designed to provide your child with further support during Year 11. Staff will be planning sessions focused on exam technique and any areas of weakness that were identified when your child sat their mock examinations. GCSE exams will be going ahead as normal in Summer 2024 and we will shortly be sending you the summer timetable. Period 6 lessons will begin on Monday 11 September 2023 and will run from the end of the school day until 4.15pm every Monday to Thursday. These sessions are compulsory for all Year 11 students. Each term, we will provide you with a timetable of sessions, so that you are aware of which subjects are being covered through these sessions. The timetable will initially focus on core subjects as follows:

Monday – Maths Intervention

Tuesday – Non-core subjects and revision skills

Wednesday – Science Intervention

Thursday – English Intervention

Y11 Mock exams

At the end of November, we will also be holding our Year 11 mock examinations. Mock exams are a good indicator of a student's progress towards their end of year grades. They will also provide your child's class teachers with vital information about their strengths and areas for development, which will allow them to adapt their teaching to ensure these gaps are covered prior to the examinations in the summer. Your child will shortly be receiving a mock exam timetable and revision lists and it is vital that they begin the preparation for their mock exams now. They can do this by doing their own revision at home, working hard in class and attending the Period 6 sessions due to start on Monday 11 September 2023. Mock exam results are often used by colleges and Post 16 providers when making admissions decisions, so it is essential that students demonstrate their full potential in these examinations.

Parents' Evening

We will be holding two progress review evenings for Year 11 this year. One will take place during week commencing Monday 25 September 2023 and will provide you with an update on your child's mock exam results from the end of Year 10 and their progress since returning in September. This will also give you an opportunity to discuss areas for development prior to the next set of mocks exams in November.

There will also be an additional progress review meeting following the Year 11 mock exams results day on Thursday 18 January 2024. Progress review meetings will run slightly differently to normal parents' evenings. You will be contacted by one of the extended leadership team and a longer meeting will take place with them to discuss all subject areas.

Please find below a list of key dates for Year 11:

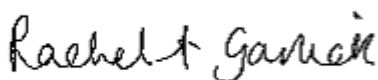
Monday 11 September 2023	Period 6 Sessions Begin (Mon – Thurs until 4:15pm)
Tuesday 26 September 2023	Progress Meetings with Extended Leadership (all week)
Tuesday 26 September 2023	Mock Exam Results Day
Tuesday 26 September 2023	Careers Fair and Revision Workshops (after school)
Tuesday 7 November 2023	Post-16 Application Workshops
Monday 13 November 2023	Mock Examinations Commence (2 weeks)
Tuesday 5 December 2023	Interview Skills Workshops
Monday 8 January 2024	Progress Report 1
Thursday 18 January 2024	Progress Meetings with Extended Leadership
Thursday 18 January 2024	Mock Exam Results Day
Monday 19 February 2024	Mock Examinations Commence (2 weeks)
Monday 22 April 2024	Progress Report 2
Thursday 9 May 2024	External Examinations Commence – Date TBC
Friday 28 June 2024	Prom & Leavers Event – Date TBC

Please be aware that GCSEs cannot be rearranged so if a student misses an exam, they will not be able to re-sit this during the summer series. Therefore, we would politely ask that you do not book any holidays in May or June 2024, as these may potentially clash with external examinations. If your child misses an exam in the summer, they will gain no credit for this exam, and this may potentially lead to them failing in this subject.

We will be sharing the GCSE timetable with you shortly, along with the confirmed dates for our leavers event and prom. Year 11 students will not automatically be entitled to attend prom, but rather this will be a reward based on students' behaviour, attendance and effort during the course of Year 11.

Through all of us working together, we know that your children, our students, will have a positive year and will make the progress their hard work deserves. Please contact us at the Academy if you have any questions or concerns and we will be happy to help.

Yours faithfully



Rachel Garlick
Head of Secondary



Kate Bateman
Deputy Headteacher