



Thursday 1st May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Support timetable for Year 11 throughout Term 5

Our first KS4 examination is tomorrow so I wanted to communicate the support timetable we have put in place for this term and the first half of the GCSE period. It is now common practice in many schools not to implement study leave prior to the start of exams, as research and experience consistently show that face-to-face teaching has a significantly greater impact on student progress and outcomes.

Lessons across all subjects are being carefully planned to provide targeted revision, exam technique coaching, and tailored support to meet individual needs. Our teachers are highly attuned to trends in exam questions, common misconceptions, and subject-specific nuances outlined by exam boards as well. This expertise is built into the revision programme delivered in class over the coming weeks. Attendance in lessons also ensures that students receive immediate feedback and have opportunities to address last-minute gaps in understanding—something that is difficult to achieve through home study alone.

In addition, the school environment offers valuable structure and routine, which many students find beneficial during what can be a stressful period. Continued attendance ensures that students are accessing the most accurate, relevant, and up-to-date support, alongside encouragement from both staff and peers.

The timetable for term 5 has been designed to offer additional support around each exam. Afterschool revision sessions are available until 4:00pm when appropriate, and the school opens from 8:00am to allow for final preparations ahead of morning exams. For afternoon exams, booster sessions are offered during Period 3 to help students focus and get into the right mindset.

There is also flexibility built into the timetable this term. Students will have the opportunity to complete independent study during PSHE and PE lessons, as well as other subjects when those exams are completed. These sessions can be used to prioritise areas of personal focus and manage workload, although it is essential that students come prepared for these to maximise their time.

Looking ahead to Term 6, a revised timetable will be in place to offer even more flexibility. At that stage, students will be able to attend only for their exams if they wish. However, they may also choose to attend on days when subject-specific sessions are running, or to maintain a routine, and make use of the available study spaces in school, attend as normal daily. This updated timetable will be shared later in the term once finalised.

I hope this provides clarity around the rationale for our support process. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any further questions. We obviously also wish all our students every success in the upcoming exams.

Kind regards,

Miss Martin
Assistant Headteacher

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