

Dear parent/carers,

Our current Year 11 students have now finished their summer exams, and we want to take this opportunity to welcome our current Year 10 students into their key final year and provide you with information to ensure the best possible starting point for a successful year ahead.

Year 10 mocks

We have been really impressed with the effort and behaviour of Year 10 during the mock exams. Please congratulate them on their efforts. Students will receive their mock exam results in the final week of this academic year. This will allow your child to reflect on where they are currently at, and staff will be on hand to talk to support students should they need to discuss anything. If your child is disappointed with their results, please reiterate the importance of continued good attendance, attitude to learning and completion of homework moving forwards will help improve results in Year 11.

Attendance

Attendance is crucial to success in Year 11. Evidence shows that 78% of children who are rarely absent gain a 4+ in 5 GCSEs including maths and English, whereas only 36% of children who are persistently absent do, and only 5% of children who are severely absent achieve the same standard.

We expect all students to attend full time and aim for **100% attendance**. Without good attendance, students' chances of success are reduced. You can expect to hear from us if your child's attendance falls below 95% as it is important to understand that if your child achieves 95% attendance at the end of an academic year, they will still have missed 2 full weeks of education. We are also obligated to take legal action against families who have poor attendance.

Year 11 mock exams

Though it may feel far away, Year 10 students will soon be in Year 11, and the first series of mock exams begin week commencing the 2 November 2026. Please encourage your child to start preparing for these examinations as soon as possible, beginning to revise little and often. These assessments will allow us to get the most accurate view of where students are at, and how best we can support them to further succeed in their real GCSE exams. We will be holding multiple revision opportunities in the lead up to these exams, with further information being sent out early in the next academic year.

Interventions

Over the course of Year 11 we have various additional interventions to support your child in achieving the best possible outcomes. From September, revision sessions (Session 5) will run 3:10-4:00pm daily in different subjects and students should aim to attend at least 2 of these per week. Teachers will also further support your child by offering Saturday school throughout the academic year. Further information on these interventions will be shared with students and yourselves in September and attendance to these sessions is proven to significantly improve grades of students.



Principal: Ms C Cartledge

Homework

Homework should be completed every week and should complement further independent revision that your child makes. Revising for GCSE exams can never be started too early, and students should start in September revising little and often.

Prom

Each year we hold a Year 11 Prom to give the students an opportunity to celebrate their success, achievements and to share a wonderful event which they will remember for many years to come. As in previous years, attendance to prom is by invitation only and it is important that students understand that an invite to the event is a privilege, not a right. For students to gain an invitation to prom, they must meet the follow expectations:

- Great attendance
- Excellent behaviour and engagement
- Excellent punctuality to all lessons and no incidents of truancy
- Attendance to interventions
- Completion of homework

Important dates for Y11

Below is an overview of the next academic year for Year 11, outlining some key dates for students and parents. Specific information regarding each event will be sent out to students/parents throughout the next academic year.

Date	Event
7 October 2026	Year 11 preparing for success evening
2– 13 November 2026	Year 11 mock 1 exams
9 December 2026*	Year 11 parents' evening
23 February – 5 March 2027	Year 11 mock 2 exams
10 May 2027 onwards	GCSE examinations
July 2027*	Year 11 prom (TBC)

*Dates are subject to change

How can you support as a parent?

There are several ways you can support your child throughout Year 11 including:

- Ensuring your child attends school and is always on time. This is the single most effective thing you can do to ensure your child gets great GCSE results.
- Encouraging your child to persevere and to begin working hard now in preparation for the exams. Make sure that every single second in lessons counts.
- Checking that they are keeping up with homework and attending the after-school revision sessions, tutoring and Saturday/holiday sessions on offer.
- Attending parents' evenings, ask questions and find out what your child needs to improve and how you can best help your child at home.
- Agreeing clear rules for homework or revision, helping them to make a realistic timetable, balancing work time against recreation time and reviewing the plans as necessary. Ensure your child sticks to their revision timetable.

Support for students suffering from exam anxiety

The realisation of the challenge ahead in Year 11 can be overwhelming for some and we are very conscious of this. If any students require any support, please encourage them to speak to their Form Tutor, Head of Year or any member of the Senior Leadership Team. We understand that Year 11 can be as challenging for family life as it is for the students themselves and it is our aim to support you and your child in any way we can through this time. Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any queries or concerns.

If you would like any further information or advice regarding homework, revision, or the curriculum, please contact your child's subject teacher or the Head of Department through the enquiries page on the school website. General queries should be addressed to your child's tutor or the Year 11 HOY, Miss Scott.

Kind regards,

Mr Saville



Vice Principal