



## Year 11 Newsletter – March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we are about to enter our last term with year 11. The recent mocks evoked many different emotions in our students and we now need to support them with channelling these emotions into the final run up to the exams. We have many opportunities for them to receive support from staff; through lunchtime support, before/after school subject clinics and Easter boosters. We hope they make the most of these. Our staff are always willing to support and if students are struggling to know what to revise for a subject then we urge them to speak to their class teacher, who will be able to help break the subject content into smaller chunks, and let them know which areas they personally need to focus on.

Included below is information on how the exams will work, as well as the full GCSE timetable. Please take the time to read the following key updates, to familiarise yourselves with what will be happening for year 11 over the next half term.

### Final Exams

The final GCSE exams are between **15<sup>th</sup> May and 23<sup>rd</sup> June**. There are no exams during the half term break from 29<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June, however we do suggest you ensure there are opportunities within this week for dedicated revision. There will be support sessions on in school as well.

All students will receive a personalised timetable for their GCSE's, including start and end times and details of the rooms they will sit the exams in.

I have included the full **GCSE exam timetable and key information** about the exams at the end of this document.

### Revising

All students will be issued with a support booklet on Friday, this is to enable them to plan their revision time, as well as giving them tips on how to revise – a copy is attached to the email.

Whilst we have previously said two revision tasks a day is sufficient during term time, you will see in the booklet, that we now recommend the 3,2,1 model as a way to increase this. 3 days a week they should do 3 tasks, 2 days a week they should do 2 tasks, 1 day a week they should do 1 task. They should then take 1 day off. We would expect this to increase slightly in the holidays, as reflected on the timetables provided in the booklet.

## **Easter Classes**

A number of staff are putting on revision sessions during the Easter break. It is important students arrive on time for these sessions as the staff will be waiting for them in reception, to sign them in and walk them up to the classroom. If students are late, they may not be able to gain entry into school and will miss the session. Students will receive a 'REACH! Ahead' ticket for each session they attend. These tickets go into a draw at the end of each term where they will be able to win gift vouchers, or even an iPad.

Please sign up to these sessions using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/STpTD28xEk>

### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

- History – Miss Heathcote in 1.43 – 9:30am to 12:30pm
- Music Composition – Miss Wilson in the Library – 9am to 12pm
- PE – Miss Singleton in 0.29 – 9am to 1pm
- Art – Mrs Williams in 1.09 – 9am to 3pm (invite only)

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

- English Literature Paper 2 – Miss Furlong in 1.29 – 9am to 3pm
- iMedia Coursework Completion – Mr Takpaul in 1.44 – 9am to 3pm
- Chemistry (Combined Science) – Mr Wells in 1.15 – 9am to 12pm
- Geography – Miss Heathcote in 1.42 – 9am to 1:30pm

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

- Chemistry (Triple Science) – Miss Sallis-Hunt in 1.13 – 11am to 1pm
- RPE - Mr Mee in 1.37 – 9am-1pm
- Computer Science – Mr Takpaul in 1.44 – 11am to 1pm

### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

- English Language All Papers – Miss James in 1.27 – 9am to 3pm
- Spanish Speaking – Mr Kerr in the library – 9am to 3pm (invite only)

### **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

- Food NEA1 – Miss Burley in 1.44 – 10am to 2pm
- Engineering R105 – Miss Cockayne in 1.44 – 9am to 1pm (invite only)
- Biology (Triple Science) – Mrs Brown-Messam in 1.11 – 9am to 12pm
- Physics (Combined Science) – Mr Garnham in 1.13 – 9am to 11:30am
- Spanish Speaking – Mr Kerr in the library – 9am to 3pm (invite only)
- Physics (Triple Science) – Mr Garnham in 1.13 – 12pm to 2:30pm

### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

- Food NEA2 – Miss Burley in 1.44 – 10am to 2pm
- Engineering R106 – Miss Cockayne in 1.44 – 9am to 12pm (invite only)
- Engineering R107 – Miss Cockayne in 1.44 – 12:30pm to 3pm (invite only)
- Maths Foundation (11M3/11M4) – Mrs Farnie and Mr Baines in 1.21 – 9am to 12pm
- Maths Foundation (11M5) – Mr Baines in 1.20 – 12:30pm to 3:30pm
- Maths Higher – Miss Carter in 1.19 – 9am to 12pm (invite only)
- RPE – Mrs Ingles in 1.37 – 9am to 1pm.

### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

- English Literature Paper 1 – Mrs Dirrane in 1.32 – 9am to 3pm
- Biology (Combined Science) – Dr Simpson in 1.11 – 9am to 12pm

### **Silent Study**

The silent study sessions provide students with a space to work on their revision. Students must plan this time and bring revision with them. They will complete 45 minutes of study, followed by a 15 minute break, before completing a final 45 minutes of study before going home.

We provide biscuits in the break, and students receive a 'REACH! Ahead' ticket for each 45 minute session they stay for. These tickets go into a draw at the end of each term where they will be able to win gift vouchers, or even an iPad.

The sessions will run for an additional day after Easter:

- Monday 2:45-4:30pm
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 3:30-5:15pm.

Please encourage your child to use this facility. However, we will be speaking to some of our year 11 families to strongly recommend attendance to these sessions, to support students in reaching their potential.

### **Practical Subject Final Exams**

There are a number of practical subjects completing final exams prior to the main series of exams. Please support your child if they are taking one of these subjects, with their preparation or materials needed. Any further information required will be sent to you directly from the class teacher.

#### **Art**

- **Final Exam:** Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> **and** Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April All Day

#### **Spanish - Speaking**

- **Final Exam:** Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>, Friday 21<sup>st</sup>, Monday 24<sup>th</sup> **or** Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April, individual times throughout the days

#### **Drama**

- **Scripted Performance:** 26<sup>th</sup> April, times will be given to students individually.

### **Before/Afterschool Subject Clinics**

Staff are putting on sessions for year 11, either before or after school, to support revision. Below are the sessions currently planned for after half term, if any further sessions are planned I will update you via email.

Students will receive a 'REACH! Ahead' ticket for each session they attend. These tickets go into a draw at the end of each term where they will be able to win gift vouchers, or even an iPad.

#### **Tuesday 3:30pm**

- Silent Study Space – Library – 5:15pm finish
- Silent Art Workspace – Mrs Wilken – 1.09 – 4:30pm finish
- Further Maths – Miss Carter – 1.25 – 4:30pm finish (Invite only)
- English Literature Drop In – Mrs Dirran – 1.31 – 4:30pm finish
- Food Coursework – Miss Burley – 0.15 – 4:30pm finish
- Maths Drop In – Dr Whotton – 1.22 – 4:30pm finish

#### **Wednesday 8:00am**

- PE – Miss Key – Library

#### **Wednesday 3:30pm**

- Silent Study Space – Library – 5:15pm finish
- History/Geography – Miss Heathcote – 1.43 – 4:30pm finish
- Science – Miss Sallis-Hunt – 1.15 – 4:30pm finish
- Food Coursework – Miss Burley – 0.15 – 4:30pm finish
- Drama – Mrs Clarke – 0.25 – 4:30pm finish (invite only)

#### **Thursday 3:30pm**

- Silent Study Space – Library – 5:15pm finish
- Art Clinic – Mrs Wilken – 1.09 – 4:30pm finish
- English Literature: Poetry – Miss Furlong – 1.29 – 4:30pm finish
- Spanish – Mrs Barrett – 0.29 – 4:30pm finish
- Food Coursework – Miss Burley – 0.15 – 4:30pm finish
- RE Clinic – Mrs Inglis – 1.37 – 4:30pm finish

### Online Revision Platforms

As a school we subscribe to, or recommend, a number of online platforms students can use to **support** their revision.

#### All Subjects

- GCSE Pod – students should use their normal school log in (Office 365 log in)
- Seneca – teachers will give students class codes to access specific content
- Master Class
- Save my Exams GCSE

#### Subject Specific

- Corbet Maths
- Dr Frost Maths
- Mr Bruff (English)
- Mr Everything English
- Teoria.com (Music)

### Results Day

Your child will be able to collect their GCSE results on the morning of **24<sup>th</sup> August**, further details to follow.

We wish our year 11's all the luck in the world with their exams.

Thank you for taking the time to read these updates. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor, Head of Year (Miss Harmer-Weston) or myself if you need any further support.

Kind regards,



Mrs Rebecca Farnie  
Deputy Headteacher - Academi

# Exam Timetable

## Week 1: 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May

Day	9am	1:15pm
Monday	<b>Religious Studies</b> Paper 1 - 1h45m <b>Engineering Design</b> R105 - 1hr	<b>Drama</b> 1h45m
Tuesday	<b>Biology</b> Paper 1 - 1h15m	
Wednesday	<b>English Literature</b> Paper 1 - 1h45m	<b>PE</b> Physical factors affecting performance - 1h
Thursday	<b>History</b> Paper 1 A & B - 2h	
Friday	<b>Maths</b> Non-calculator - 1h30m	<b>Computer Science</b> Computer systems - 1h30m

## Week 2: 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May

Day	9am	1:15pm
Monday	<b>Chemistry</b> Paper 1 - 1h15m	<b>Geography</b> Paper 1 - 1hr30m
Tuesday		<b>Religious Studies</b> Paper 2 - 1h45m
Wednesday	<b>English Literature</b> Paper 2 - 2h15m	
Thursday	<b>Physics</b> Paper 1 - 1h15m	<b>Computer Science</b> Computational thinking - 1h30m
Friday		

Half Term Break: 29<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June

We will share information about booster classes in this week closer to the time

## Week 3: 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June

Day	9am	1:15pm
Monday	<b>English Language</b> Paper 1 - 1h45m	
Tuesday	<b>Spanish Listening</b> Foundation - 35m Higher - 45m <b>Spanish Reading</b> Foundation - 45 min Higher - 1h	
Wednesday	<b>Maths</b> Calculator - 1h30m	<b>History</b> Paper 2A - 2h
Thursday	<b>Further Maths</b> Paper 1 - 1h45m <b>PE</b> Socio-cultural issues & sports psychology - 1h	
Friday	<b>Geography</b> Paper 2 - 1h30m	<b>Biology</b> Paper 2 - 1h15m

## Week 4: 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June

Day	9am	1:15pm
Monday	<b>English Language</b> Paper 2 - 1h45m	<b>Creative iMedia</b> Pre-production skills - 1h15m
Tuesday	<b>Chemistry</b> Paper 2 - 1h15m	<b>Spanish Writing</b> Foundation - 1h15m Higher - 1h20m
Wednesday	<b>Maths</b> Calculator - 1h30m	<b>Music</b> Component 3: Appraising - 1h45m
Thursday		
Friday	<b>Physics</b> Paper 2 - 1h15m	<b>Geography</b> Paper 3 - 1h15m

## Week 5: 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Day	9am	1:15pm
Tuesday	<b>Food Prep &amp; Nutrition</b> 1h45m	
Wednesday		<b>Further Maths</b> Paper 2 - 1h45m

# ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW: Year 11 Mock Exams 15<sup>th</sup> May to 22<sup>nd</sup> June

<p><b>Key Times on Exam Days</b></p> <p><b><u>MORNING EXAMS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8.00AM</b> Be in school - Toast in canteen ☺</li> <li>• <b>8.20AM</b> Warm-Up Session (students are registered)</li> <li>• <b>8.50AM</b> Go to the dining room if you are in the main hall, or line up outside your designated classroom</li> <li>• <b>9.00AM</b> Start exam</li> <li>• Return to lessons after exams</li> </ul> <p><b><u>AFTERNOON EXAMS – Move 15mins</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>12.15PM</b> Lunch</li> <li>• <b>12.35PM</b> Warm-Up Session (registered)</li> <li>• <b>13:05PM</b> Go to the dining room if you are in the main hall, or line up outside your designated classroom</li> <li>• <b>1.15PM</b> Start exam</li> <li>• Return to lessons after exams</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Boosters &amp; Warm-Up Sessions (compulsory)</u></b></p> <p><b><u>What happens during a Booster Session?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Booster sessions <i>happen the day before an exam</i> at 3.30pm</li> <li>• Teachers will revise essential knowledge and skills or practise exam questions</li> </ul> <p><b><u>What happens in a Warm-Up Session?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registers are taken (missing students will be contacted by the office)</li> <li>• Equipment checks</li> <li>• Knowledge recall activities</li> <li>• Reminders of essential details of the exam</li> <li>• Confidence boosting!</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>On the day of an exam</u></b></p> <p><b><u>What if you are ill?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phone the school as early as possible</li> <li>• Say what your symptoms are</li> <li>• Say which exam you have</li> <li>• Mrs Farnie or Mrs Partlett will call you back to advise you what to do next</li> </ul> <p><b><u>What if you are running late?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phone the school as early as possible</li> <li>• Say your estimated time of arrival</li> <li>• Say which exam you have</li> <li>• Mrs Farnie or Mrs Partlett will call you back if necessary</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>No formal ‘Exam Leave’</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 11 students must attend school and all lessons as normal during the exam season, unless told otherwise by Mrs Farnie.</li> <li>• Some lessons may be moved around, to allow teachers to see you before exams, this information will be shared closer to the time.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Key dates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May - GCSE exams start</li> <li>• Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June - GCSE exams finish</li> <li>• Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Year 11 Leavers Day</li> <li>• Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July - Year 11 Prom (Goosedale)</li> <li>• Thu 25 August - GCSE Results Day</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Healthy Revision</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start now! Don’t delay!!</li> <li>• Small chunks: 40-minute sessions per subject, then take a small break.</li> <li>• Use revision lists from your subject teachers.</li> <li>• Revise topics you are weak on, not the things you know.</li> <li>• Make notes brief – don’t copy long paragraphs.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Index/flash Cards</li> <li>• Trigger words</li> <li>• Colour coding</li> <li>• Visual cues or mind-maps</li> <li>• Put these revision aids up around the house</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Knowledge recall: use self-tests, quizzes, teach someone else or have someone test you.</li> <li>• Application: complete practice past questions/papers.</li> <li>• Always get a good night’s sleep, never revise late into the evening.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>DOs and DON'Ts</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Do be on time!</b></li> <li>• <b>Do leave valuables at home!</b> You will not be allowed to take your coat and bag with you to your exam desk.</li> <li>• <b>Do eat before your exam!</b> No food is allowed in the exam venue.</li> <li>• <b>Do have a clear pencil case!</b> No labels or non-clear.</li> <li>• <b>Don’t have phones, smart watches or watches on your person!</b> Leave at home or in your bag.</li> <li>• <b>Don’t communicate inside the exam room!</b> Hands up to get an invigilator’s attention <b>Don’t have labels on water bottles!</b> Clear bottles only.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>What equipment do I need?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black pens are essential for all exams</li> <li>• Pencil &amp; sharpener</li> <li>• Ruler</li> <li>• Eraser</li> <li>• <i>Calculator (no case)</i></li> <li>• Mathematical equipment (compasses, protractor)</li> <li>• Clear pencil cases only!</li> </ul> <p>All equipment can be purchased from BASE.</p>	

