

Parents and Carers of Year 10 Students

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Principal: Ms Siobhan Hearne

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KS4: Ace Your Exams**“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail”**

Dear Parents and Carers

We are now in the final stages of Year 10 and at the time of year when we would normally be launching our successful ‘**Ace your Exams**’ programme with students. This programme has helped previous students to achieve excellent examination outcomes and propelled the school into the top 25% nationally for results.

We understand that at the time of writing there is no clarity about the exam process for Summer 2022. However, as we wait for this, based on this year’s experience, it is clear that students will still be required to complete assessments that provide evidence for the final grades that they will be awarded, no matter what form those final assessments take.

It is therefore vital that we support our students to start preparing now and that we do all that we can to help them with overcoming the disruption that they have had to their learning over the last year.

Therefore, this year’s programme of support will be more vital than ever and it is even more important that students engage in the support that we are offering.

The following outlines the support we intend to offer although, like a lot of elements of life at the moment, it is subject to change!

Study Support

There is absolutely no doubt that experience shows us that success comes to those who work hard both in College and at home. It is vital that students complete additional learning outside of the classroom. You cannot assume that your child will do this for themselves and parents and carers must take an active role in insisting that this happens. This is about supporting students with getting into good habits now; finding a quiet time and place to do that little bit extra; and taking advantage of the support that we offer over the year ahead.

Technological Support

There is no doubt that teenagers and their phones are difficult to part! However, there is a wealth of apps and websites which students can access which can be used to enhance their study skills. Likewise, there are a wealth of apps to help students organise their notes and time and support them with the difficult task of revision. To support students, we offer a range of free study support which is outlined in the attached booklet.

Preparing for Year 11 NOW!

Revision Guides: As a gift from the College, students will shortly be issued with a set of revision guides in each subject that they study (subject to availability). Their revision programme should be a year-long process, rather than a last minute rush and we ask you to support us in getting them started now.

GCSE Trial Examinations Season 1: From Tuesday 8th until Thursday 17th June, students will be taking part in this programme to give them an early experience of what a GCSE paper looks like and how it feels to sit exams under examination conditions. We hope that following this, over the summer, students will take the opportunity to 'close the gap' on key areas of focus. An overview of the examination timetable is at the end of this letter, and individual timetables will be issued shortly. To support them at this time, students will have elements of home study during this period.

Year 10 SPRE Tuesday 6th July 2021 – 4:00 pm-7:00 pm: Following on from the trial exams, we would like to invite you to a Year 10 SPRE to discuss the progress made so far and so that we can identify the key areas that each student needs to focus on moving forwards. This event will be a virtual event, with parents having the ability to book sessions on line with teachers. More details will follow.

Going Forward for Next Year!

Year 11 Terms 1 and 2

1:1 Future Pathways Meeting: Each student will have a 1:1 meeting with a Senior Leader to discuss their future plans, identify key action points that need to be addressed and to identify if they need any further individual support at this time.

Sixth Form Pathways Evening: We invite students and parents and carers to join us on Wednesday 10 November 2021 for the evening to explore options for post-16 study at The Latimer Arts College. We will confirm if this will be an onsite event or a virtual event.

Tutor Time Revision Workshops: Students will be supported with their revision programme during tutor time, when they will take part in revision planning workshops in the lead up to trial examinations.

GCSE Trial Examination Season 2: This will run at the end of November when students will take trial examinations in all subjects. It is so important that they approach these examinations with the right attitude. It is an opportunity for students to have already prepared a substantial amount of revision notes and it will give them a benchmark for what they are secure in and what they need to focus on as a priority.

Year 11 Terms 3 and 4

GCSE Trial Examination Results Day: This will be held on students' return to school in January and mirrors the actual results day that will take place in August 2022. Based on their mock examinations and current progress, students will be given their results in every subject. This will give an indication of how much distance they need to travel by the summer!

Year 11 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE): It is vital for parents and carers to participate in this event as they will have an opportunity to speak to their child's subject teachers in a 1:1 session to discuss what a student's priority areas are in the countdown to the summer examination season.

Ready, Set, Go Evening: We invite parents and carers to join us in January for a workshop in which training in key revision techniques will be given. This evening is always very well attended and the feedback is overwhelmingly positive, so do not miss out!

Tutor Time Revision Workshops: Students will be supported with their revision programme during tutor time, when they will take part in revision planning workshops.

1:1 Future Pathways Meeting: Each Year 11 student will have follow up 1:1 meeting with a Senior Leader to ensure that they have firm plans for post-16 and to identify if they need any further support in the run up to their GCSE examinations.

GCSE Trial Examination Season 3: We will run a further programme of trial examinations so that students can identify the final priority areas that they can focus on over the Easter break and in the run up to their GCSE examinations.

Easter Revision: A programme of revision sessions for individual subjects will take place during the Easter holidays in 2022 and students will be invited to attend relevant sessions.

Year 11 Terms 5 and 6

Alternative Timetable: Through a combination of revision sessions, masterclasses and home study this programme will support students in their final run up to exams.

GCSE Summer Examination Season: This runs provisionally from May 2022 and finishes in the last week of June 2022. Some practical examinations will have taken place before this and all BTEC qualifications will have been completed.

Provisionally - Thursday 18th August 2022

The big one – GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form Registration!

We believe that this is a comprehensive programme of support offered by the College but we are always open to further requests for help and support, so please do let us know if there is anything else that you feel we can provide. Your child needs to do the hard work but if we can work in partnership to support them, then there will be no limits to the success they can achieve.

Yours sincerely



Ms S Hearne
Principal



Mr S Harvey
Vice Principal

Draft Year 10 – Internal Timetable – Term 6

Please use this as a guide. An updated individual final timetable will be produced and issued to students. This timetable will include specific times, locations and resolve any issues with subjects that clash. When not in exams, students will be self-studying.

Monday 7th	Tuesday 8th	Wednesday 9th	Thursday 10th	Friday 11th
Training Day	Session 1	Session 1	Session 1	Session 1
	English Lang 1 hr 40	Maths 1 hr 30	Science 1hr 45 – 1 hr 15	History 1hr 15 OR Geography 1hr
	Session 2	Session 2	Session 2	Session 2
	Computer Science 1 hr 30 Psychology 1hr 45 Drama 1 hr 45 Food 2 hr DT 2 hr	French 1hr 45 – 1 hr20 Reading and listening	Music 1 hr French 1hr Writing	RS 1 hr 30
Monday 14th	Tuesday 15th	Wednesday 16th	Thursday 17th	Friday 18 th
Session 1	Session 1	Session 1	Session 1	Return to Normal timetable
Science 1 hr 45 – 1 hr15	Maths 1 hr 30	English Lit 1 hr 40	Science 1 hr 45 -1 hr 15	
Session 2	Session 2	Session 2	Session 2	
Dance 1 hr 30	Geography 1 hr	RS 1 hr	Business 1 hr	
ICT 1 hr				

Art exam will be in the last week of term 5

French speaking exams will be in the last week of term 5