

7th April, 2022



Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 Update

Apologies in advance for the length of this letter, but I am writing to you about some of the arrangements we're putting in place for Year 11 students over the next few months.

Easter Revision School

We are able to offer a small number of onsite revision sessions during the Easter holidays. Please note that these are being offered in a small number of subjects as other subjects are making alternative arrangements (*eg* through Revise Till Five). Please note:

- each session will take place from 10:30am to 2:00pm, and students must commit to staying for the full session;
- students will need to bring a packed lunch, as our canteen will not be open and students will not be permitted to leave the site during the day;
- students must sign in on arrival;
- students need not wear their school uniform, but should dress appropriately for a study session;
- students wishing to attend should do book beforehand. We'll be using the same booking system as we do for virtual Parents' Evenings – it can be accessed [here](#). You'll need to login with the following information:
 - your details: Your title, your first name, your surname and your email address; and
 - your child's details: Their first name, their surname and their date of birth;
- please note that there will be no 'first-day response' if students do not turn up at school, so parents who require confirmation that their son has safely arrived in school should telephone the school switchboard after 10:30am; and
- the sessions are open to all students who study the subject in question, not just those taught by the teacher leading the session.

The timetable for the sessions is as follows:

Date	Senior Leader onsite	Sessions available
Tuesday 12th April	Mr Brierley	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design Technology (all options): Mr Flannery, Room T5• Music: Miss Smith, Room 35
Wednesday 13th April	Mr Slater	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Computing: Mrs Niblock, Room 20• Design Technology (all options): Mr Flannery, Room T6
Wednesday 20th April	Mrs Penketh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drama: Mr Mulligan, Drama Hall• History: Mr Keenan, Room 53
Thursday 21st April	Mr Lawton	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maths (Higher Tier): Mr Brierley, Room 21• Business Studies: Mr Farragher, Room 46

Arrangements in May

Your son should by now have received his individual GCSE timetable. If he has mislaid it, or if you would like an additional copy, please contact Mrs Hollywood in the Exams Office through [this e-mail address](#). A full timetable (for all subjects) is available on our school website.

You will see from the timetable that your son (in common with all other Year 11 students) has an English Language exam on the morning of **Wednesday 25th May**. After their exam, we will provide students with their traditional Leavers' Lunch, and their Leavers' Service will take place in St Anne's Church shortly afterwards (the exact time will be confirmed nearer the time). **You are cordially invited to attend this service** to celebrate the contribution a truly remarkable group of young men have made to our school.

At our recent non-Uniform Day in aid of Ukrainian relief, a number of Year 11 students chose to dress in a manner which reflected their cultural identity. We felt this was deeply appropriate and enjoyed celebrating their identities with them. Although your son will need to attend his English Language GCSE and the Leavers' Lunch in full school uniform as usual, we would want to encourage all Year 11 students to bring a change of clothes so that, if they wish to do so, they can attend the Leavers' Service in dress which reflects their identity.

Of course, the main focus throughout May (and April!) needs to be **revision**. I attended a conference recently and listened to a Headteacher from an outstanding school in London. She described how each March, she invites Year 11 students to surrender their mobile 'phones – voluntarily – until their last GCSE exam. This 'digital detox' enables them to focus on their revision at such a crucial time in their lives. She reported that this year, over half of her Year 11s had taken her up on the offer, and handed over their mobiles (and/or their X-Box cables *etc*) for safekeeping in school. I've mentioned this to our Year 11s in a recent Assembly; if you and your son would like us to provide the same service, please let me know through [this e-mail address](#).

Study Leave

- Year 11 lessons will continue as usual up to (and including) Friday May 27th. Students should attend school at the same times as usual, take their exams as scheduled, and attend lessons when not taking exams.
- After May half-term, Year 11 students are granted Study Leave and do not need to attend school **unless** they have an exam. However, they **may** attend school if they wish to do so; their teachers will be in their timetabled classrooms at the timetabled times until the last exam in their subject. Teachers will be available to help with any revision queries, look through any online past papers your son may have completed as part of their personal revision, *etc*.

Your son must wear full school uniform whenever they are on our school site.

Arrangements in June

Year 11 officially leave school on the last Friday in June, which this year falls on **24th June**. However, I am obliged to advise you that the Exam Boards have officially designated **Wednesday 29th June** as Exam Contingency Day. This is a day that is set aside for external exams that might need to be rescheduled for any reason. (Please be reassured that it would be highly unusual for this to happen).

Those taking external exams should ensure they are available on that day, just in case the Exam Boards need to utilise it.

GCSE Results Day

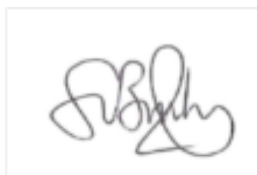
We will write to you with more details about GCSE Results Day in due course, but for now a reminder that GCSE results will be released to students on **Thursday 25th August**. Please ensure your son is available to come into school in person that morning as we are unable to offer the same level of post-results support and advice remotely.

Sixth Form enrolment takes place on the same day, immediately after GCSE results have been distributed.

Finally...

We recognise that the lead-up to GCSEs can be a stressful time for students (and for parents!). Help is always at hand, though; if you or your son would appreciate any extra support at this time, please don't hesitate to contact [Mr Farragher](#) (Acting Head of Year 11), [Dr Silverstone](#) or [myself](#).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Brierley', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Stephen Brierley
Principal.