



2nd May 2025

Thank you for your support - Continuing Our Exam Preparation and Revision Journey with Year 11

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the heart of the exam season, we wanted to reflect and sincerely thank you for your continual support throughout this vital year for our Year 11 students.

If you would prefer to watch a video talking you through this letter, click [here](https://youtu.be/iolDvWZMSG).
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Our motto this year has been simple yet powerful: *"Leave nothing to chance."* It has been the driving force behind everything we have done to prepare your children for their exams. From the very start, we have embraced evidence-driven revision techniques and strategies, which we have shared with students through detailed sessions and a supportive booklet designed to guide them at every step.

We have held numerous assemblies focused not only on motivating students academically but also on equipping them with ideas and practical tips to support their wellbeing during what can be a demanding time. Our teaching staff have gone above and beyond, running intervention sessions after school, throughout the Easter break, and once again during the upcoming May half term. In addition, walking talking mocks sessions.

However, none of this would have been as effective without your vital role. Your encouragement, guidance, and support at home have been an essential part of this journey, and for that, we are truly grateful.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 students. The culture of commitment, resilience, and positivity that has developed amongst them has been a joy to witness. It is clear they are embracing the spirit of *"leaving nothing to chance."*

Expectation and provision for the Exam period:

We understand that this exam period can feel intense for students and families alike. Naturally, some students may feel they can revise more comfortably at home once a subject exam is complete. **However, the expectation is for them to remain in school during the exam period.** The overwhelming evidence — and our direct experience, with specialist teachers on hand to support, shows that students are far more likely to succeed when they remain in school throughout this period.

At school, your child is not only surrounded by their teachers — subject experts who can tailor revision to meet immediate needs — but also benefits from structured, focused, and distraction-free spaces. Once exams in a particular subject are finished, lessons continue to support revision in other areas, guided by staff who know how to boost knowledge retention and exam readiness.

Recent research reinforces this approach:

- A **2025 Department for Education report** confirmed a strong, consistent link between **high attendance** and **improved academic outcomes** across all student backgrounds.
- Studies from **One Education** highlight that many students struggle with **unstructured revision at home**, often battling distractions or lacking clear direction.
- Schools that keep students in during the exam period — offering **quiet study areas, subject-specific revision support, and wellbeing resources** — see improved results and stronger emotional resilience.
- And crucially, school also remains the safest place for many students during this time. Especially on days with both morning and afternoon exams, staying on site ensures they can rest, eat, and prepare in a calm, supervised environment — without the disruption of travel or the risk of missing key preparation time.

For all these reasons, we **strongly encourage all students to attend school daily** throughout the exam period, even if certain subject exams have concluded. Maintaining this routine helps sustain momentum, reduces anxiety, and ensures no opportunity for progress is missed.

We also know that this time can be emotionally demanding, and we're here to support not just academic outcomes but your child's wellbeing too. If your child is feeling stressed or overwhelmed, the NHS offers useful advice for parents on how to help:

[Help your child beat exam stress \(NHS\)](#)

We already have plans for after the May half-term and will update you during the first week back with clear information, including whether students may be authorised to leave site towards the end of the exam period in certain circumstances.

Above all, our shared goal is to keep your child's wellbeing and success at the heart of every decision. Together, we are helping them build the confidence, habits, and resilience they need — not just for exams, but for whatever comes next.

Thank you, as always, for standing with us in this journey.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Walker
Deputy Headteacher