

May 2019

Dear Parents / carers

The summer exam season is fast approaching. We appreciate that this can be a stressful time for students and our aim is to support and guide them as effectively as possible to reduce stress and build their confidence ahead of these crucial exams. The advice to students has been to make use of the resources provided by subject teachers along with their individualised revision guides to plan their preparation and revision. The formal after school revision sessions (which have run since October) will continue to run until 10th May.

As additional support, throughout the main GCSE exam season (13th May to 14th June) there will be a series of revision sessions on the website:

<http://www.garibaldi.org.uk/page.php?d=year11&p=revision> or attached for paper copies which will take place in the morning or afternoon prior to each exam. During these sessions subject teachers will support final preparations for the exam, give students the opportunity to address any last minute queries and settle some nerves. Also attached is a rescheduled after school revision programme to fit with the timing of the exams throughout the four week exam period.

Once the exams begin there will be disruption to students' ordinary timetables however students will be expected to be in school full time until Friday 14th June and in full school uniform. The following dates are set out below to ensure that parents/carers are clear on what is expected in terms of attendance in this period:

<p>Monday 13th May</p>	<p>Start of the formal exam period and of the arrangements as set out on the attached documents.</p> <p>From this point all Year 11 students will register during study period in the Hub where a free breakfast provision will be provided throughout the four week exam period.</p>
<p>Friday 14th June</p>	<p>This is the date up to which <u>students need to attend as normal</u>. If students miss sessions (i.e. morning or afternoon) up to this point these absences will be followed up as previously. <i>If students have completed their studies in a subject prior to this point there will be opportunities to use this time to prepare for exams in other subjects.</i></p> <p>All Year 11 students have a Science exam in the morning. <u>After this exam students will be allowed to leave the site</u> (the exam will finish between 10:30 and 11:00 for most students).</p>
<p>Monday 17th June</p>	<p>Leavers' assembly and shirt signing in the morning from 9.00 AM – 10.00 AM in the Hall. At this point the formal exams will have been completed for all subjects other than, Greek and Polish GCSE.</p> <p><u>NB – Up to and including the Leavers' assembly when students are in school they are expected to wear full school uniform.</u></p> <p><i>Leavers' hoodies if ordered can be collected during the leavers' assembly.</i></p>

Additional dates for your reference include:

Thursday 27th June	The Year 11 Prom at Rufford Park Golf and Country Club
From Tuesday 18th June to Friday 28th June.	Students' signing out. Once all your child's exams have been completed and all outstanding coursework submitted they can 'sign out'. Students will need to come into student reception to collect a signing out form and then get the required signatures from staff to complete the process.

I would also like to take the opportunity to reiterate the importance of students making use of their own time to support preparations for the exams. While we endeavour to support students as much as possible in school time, it is essential that time is allocated at home over the coming weeks. Revision time should be planned using a revision timetable, a possible template for which is in the revision guide students received last half term. Further guidance and electronic copies of the revision materials provided can be found on the School website under the Year Groups tab, then Year 11 and Revision <http://www.garibaldi.org.uk/page.php?d=year11&p=revision> Revision should go beyond simply reading through exercise books; again suggestions and some guidance are available in the revision guide and have been shared with students via email.

If you require any further information with regard to the above please do not hesitate to contact me directly or the appropriate member of teaching staff.

Finally, on behalf of the staff I would like to wish all our students good luck for their exams.

Yours faithfully

Martin Dawson

Martin Dawson
Assistant Head of School - Achievement