



6 February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Preparation and Support for GCSEs 2024

I am sending a further correspondence to you as it is extremely important that we ensure our communications keep you frequently updated about the ongoing support for your child. Year 11 students are now rapidly approaching their final practical exams and coursework deadlines next term, and then their final written GCSE exams, which are just 10 school weeks away.

We hope that having received your child's report, and having had the opportunity to discuss their progress in subject areas with their class teachers at the Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening last week, you feel clear on their next steps and are as positive as we are about what they are capable of achieving this year!

Next Steps

Outlined below are some key events, interventions and expectations. As we walk alongside your child on their journey to success, we ask you for your support either by your attendance or ensuring your child's engagement with the interventions we are offering; all of which have proven track records in supporting students to achieve grades which will open doors to their future.

Attendance

It may sound obvious but attendance is vital for academic success, now more than ever. Students with excellent attendance gain higher grades than students who have days off school, and are therefore more likely to achieve their academic goals. We therefore expect 100% attendance to school and to any Achieve sessions for which they are identified for from now until the exam period.

Mandatory Achieve sessions continue to run from 2.35 – 3.20pm. Your child has been provided with details of the Achieve sessions they should attend and these are on a sticker in their planner. If these change due to the needs of your child, a new sticker will be issued.

On the rare occasion a student fails to attend Achieve sessions, they will receive a detention. In the unlikely event that a student persistently fails to attend Achieve sessions, this may result in further sanctions and your child not being invited to events such as the Year 11 Prom. I am confident that you will agree with the benefit of these targeted sessions so we look forward to seeing all students in these sessions between now and their exams.

February and Easter Workshops

Most subject areas are offering February workshops to enhance coursework or support revision for upcoming exams. Students have been carefully selected by their class teachers and sessions have been designed for the invited students – an opportunity not to be missed!

If your child is required to attend a workshop, they will receive details of these in school and you will also receive a bespoke communication on MCAS which will outline the sessions which they need to attend. Please ensure your child attends all workshops which they have been selected for.

We will also have Easter workshops which you will receive details of nearer the time, following the same process.

Core Mock Exams – Friday 23 February to Monday 4 March

After half-term there is a further set of Mock Exams in English, Maths and Science. These provide class teachers with more information about your child's progress, to allow them to offer further focused teaching and additional interventions to support strong outcomes. The timetable for these Mock Exams is available on the school website this week and students will also receive a hard copy. Please review this and ensure your child is using revision resources to prepare for these exams, and that they attend each exam.

It is important to know that in the event your child is unable to sit an exam in Summer, exam boards often refer back to the results of these exams to determine students' final GCSE grades. It is therefore imperative these are taken seriously and attendance is a priority.

Revision Festival – Monday 26 February

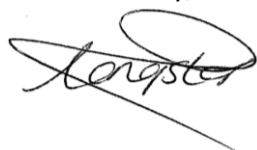
All students will be required to remain in school at the end of the day. They will be treated to refreshments and a session on motivation and resilience from Camron Parker from Dreams 2 Reality, who has been working with students in this year group since they moved into Key Stage 4.

We then invite parents/carers to join the Revision Festival from 3.30pm. There will be a range of sessions for students about how to revise, and for parents/carers in relation to supporting your child to revise and prepare for their exams. Our teaching staff will also be on hand to provide key revision materials and offer advice/guidance for specific subject areas. Refreshments will be available and we would love to see you there to continue to build positive relationships as we support Year 11 students together.

We do recommend that all Year 11 students spend a minimum of 2 hours after school revising, whether this takes the form of independent revision or completing homework. Many students already have good revision routines which we are extremely proud of but this event should provide all students and parents/carers with resources, tips and ideas, which they can take away to improve on. Moving forward we will also be offering revision spaces in school for Year 11 students until 5pm so that revision can be completed in school before they leave for the day.

If there is anything else we can support you with please do not hesitate to contact us on admin@kings.patrust.org.uk

Yours faithfully,



Miss P Langston
Deputy Headteacher