

28.11.2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Ahead of tonight's Progress Evening, I write with some key information for next term and beyond.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Year 11 on their performance during the November mock examinations. There is much to praise and I know that each and every member of Year 11 will and can be successful if they respond positively to tonight's feedback and to the granular detail of the mock examinations. As I have said before, now is the time to step up and to ensure that the balance between school and social life/hobbies is appropriate.

Period 7 revision sessions

From January we will be running Period 7 revision sessions – across all subjects – on a Thursday. We will publish the timetable before we break for Christmas and will also include the additional sessions that the Maths team will be running on a Monday (Foundation Tier) and a Friday (Higher Tier). To aid your future planning, I have listed below the dates of these sessions:

- 9th January
- 16th January
- 23rd January
- 30th January
- 27th February
- 12th March
- 19th March
- 26th March – School Production

Please note that we will not be running Period 7s during the week of the second set of mock examinations (w/c 3rd February) nor the following week (w/c 10th February) as we will need this time to moderate the mock papers. If transport is a barrier to your son/daughter attending any of these sessions, please contact me directly. Please also note that the second Year 11 Progress Evening will take place on 5th March.

Easter holidays

The Easter holiday is the most critical time for Year 11 students. We will be running revision sessions in school from Monday 6th April – Thursday 9th April (inclusive) and will be looking for full attendance across these days. Again, if transport is a barrier, please do contact me directly.

Further support

In addition to the Period 7 programme, there is a raft of additional support:

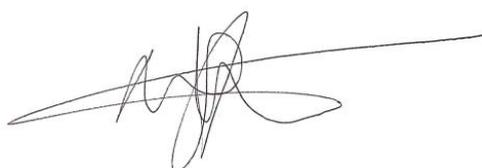
- Supervised study (lunchtimes with Mrs Parker, Wednesday afternoons);
- 1:1 English and Maths support through our personal tutors;
- 1:1 mentoring with myself, Mr Rearden and Mr Spurin and our Pastoral Support Officers;
- Revision during tutor time;
- A carousel of additional intervention for Maths Statistics.

Finally, thank you for your continued support. Getting home and school right from January onwards will guarantee success in August and ensure that no student has to compromise. As you will hear tonight, for some of our students the mock results show that whilst time was put aside to revise, too much of the revision involved reading from textbooks or reading notes. As a result we will be re-running a session on the most effective ways to revise and below are suggested questions/activities that you might consider at home:

1. Asking them to show you their weekly revision programme and then nudging/cajoling/supporting them in sticking to it;
2. Asking them about the detail. If they say: 'I'm off to revise German' this is too vague; 'I'm off to revise vocabulary on social media' is what they need to be saying;
3. Supporting them with active revision strategies and helping to focus them on the subjects that they might like less or where they feel they are behind.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.ixworthschool.org.uk/end-of-year-examinations-and-revision/>.

Best wishes



Mark Barrow
Headteacher