

January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you of some of the key strategies we are implementing to support your child to be successful in their GCSEs. We hope to ensure that they feel motivated and prepared for their remaining time in Year 11.

A key part of our approach involves the trial exams which begin on **Thursday 12th February and finish on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February**. These exams are an important opportunity for students to experience the full exam process and identify areas for improvement ahead of the summer GCSEs.

We formally launched the revision period with an assembly. The key messages shared with students were:

- Start revision now – our recommendation is two hours each weekday evening and four hours across the weekend.
- Balance is important – students should continue with clubs and hobbies alongside their revision and school work.
- Aim high – securing the best possible results will open doors to their chosen future pathways.

We would greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing these messages at home and helping your child establish a consistent revision routine. We know working together with you gives your child the best chance of success, which is why we have placed Parents' Evening and a Parent Workshop and Wellbeing session promptly after they receive their trial exam results. This will help us to provide you with the most up to date and specific guidance they require to succeed and support you in helping your child with their revision and managing their stress. Alongside these events, we will also be hosting a Destinations Day for students, during the school day, to help support your child in ensuring they have all the information they need for their Post 16 destination and have an opportunity to discuss their career ambitions.

We thought it was important to include all relevant dates below:

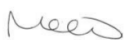
**Key Dates for Year 11 this term:**

- **11th February** – Destination Day
- **12th February** – Trial Exams start
- **18th March** – Parent Workshops – 6pm until 7.20
- **23rd March** – Trial Exam Results
- **26th March** – X Half Parents' Evening
- **31st March** – Y Half Parents' Evening

Please also be aware that, following the trial exams results, we are regrouping classes in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science for the final weeks prior to the exams. This will allow us to focus on delivering targeted teaching, bespoke revision skills and exam techniques that your child requires to maximise their revision over Easter.

Thank you for working with us in what we know can be a challenging year for parents and students.

Yours faithfully



Matt Bland  
Head of Year 11