

Thursday 1st February 2018

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Re: GCSE examinations less than 10 school weeks away

Year 11 is flying by, and in just under 10 school weeks, your child will be sitting their GCSE exams that mark the end of this phase of their education. Our goal at Compass is that “Everyone in our school community will confidently reach the destination to which they aspire.” Pupils started year 11 on the back of some disappointing end of year 10 results, and have made significant progress from this starting point thanks to their own hard work and that of their teachers.

In order to support year 11 we have:

- Revised the curriculum to include a V-Cert in PE to boost their number of qualifications
- Introduced alternative qualifications in Business Studies and Computing
- Launched a weekly Saturday School
- Extended the school day to provide more teaching hours
- Run weekly ‘excel in exams’ sessions to boost achievement in Maths
- Invested in online platforms such as GCSE Pod and MyMaths
- Arranged one-to-one independent careers guidance meetings

But there is much more we need to do to ensure your child has the success they deserve. We will continue with the above programmes and will also run Half-Term intervention sessions for all year 11 pupils and another during the Easter holiday. The Half-Term schedule is as follows:

Half-Term Intervention

	Monday 12th	Tuesday 13th	Wednesday 14th	Thursday 15th	Friday 16th
9 to 11	Art	Graphics	English	Maths	Science
11 to 1	Art & PE	Graphics & Media	English	Science	Geography

Pupils will receive their own personalised timetables within the next week.

Mock Examinations

Our next round of mock examinations will take place from the 21st to 28th February. The schedule is as follows:

Year 11	Wednesday 21st	Thursday 22nd	Friday 23rd	Monday 26th	Tuesday 27th	Wednesday 28th
8:20am	English Literature	Maths	Chemistry	Maths	Physics	English Language
11:00am	Media	English Literature	French/Spanish	Humanities	STEM	Computing
14:30 pm	Humanities	Biology	No Excel in Exams	English Language	Maths	Geography

Daily Interventions

Compulsory interventions continue to run during the school week Monday to Wednesday 5:30pm, Thursday until 4:30 then voluntary until 5:30, Friday until 3:30. Refreshments are provided. Please complete the attached form if your child is unable to attend a specific session and ensure it is returned to Ms Cockram.

Behaviour for learning

It is now more important than ever that all year 11 pupils focus on their learning, make the best of intervention opportunities and avoid behaviour that detracts from their learning and that of other pupils. For this reason, we will continue to apply the school's behaviour policy including the use of detentions, parking, internal and external exclusions. Where time permits, pupils will be provided with revision/ examination material to complete during their sanctions.

They need your support

There is still time to improve your child's performance but we must make every minute count. Please ensure that they:

- Attend school every day and with the right attitude so nothing distracts from their learning.
- Attend all interventions as these are essential for them to catch up on work missed in previous years.
- Plan their revision at home using the attached revision timetable. Cramming at the last minute is the least effective revision strategy, while little and often will give them the best chance of success.
- Get plenty of exercise, sleep and eat healthily.

It is a privilege to be working with our year 11 pupils at this critical time in their educational careers. As we approach the home straight, it is essential that we collectively accelerate to the finish line and end the year without any regrets that we could have done more.

Yours sincerely,



Marcus Huntley
Principal

Year 11 Interventions

I am writing to request that is excused from the following

intervention session(s):

Reason for absence:

Parent/Carer Date