

11 January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers (and year 11 pupils)

Welcome back to another busy term. In four months time our year 11 pupils will begin their GCSE exams and the time between then and now is vital for revision, mock exams and planning ahead.

Firstly, I wish to inform you that year 11 will start their second set of mock GCSE exams on Tuesday 30 January. These will continue for two weeks, finishing on Friday 9 February. This start date is a week earlier than we initially calendared but as many subjects are completing a full set of exams (the same as pupils will sit in the summer), there is not enough time to fit them all into one week, hence the earlier start. These exams start in 2½ weeks and all pupils should now be regularly revising and aiming to improve on their November mock results.

Many pupils say they don't know how to revise and there are many different ways to do so. Pupils need to try different methods to see which one suits them best. All pupils were given a booklet on revision techniques and methods last term and they should refer to this or ask a member of staff for assistance.

Pupils also need to plan their revision with a revision timetable. Revision should be done every day but only in chunks of 30 minutes and without the distraction of mobile phones. However, mobile technology does have a part to play in revision now. All year 11 pupils have access to the PiXL maths app and PiXL literature app and will shortly be able to access history and geography also. These apps help identify areas of strength and weakness, design questions to improve your skills and have a 'help' feature to explain if you are struggling to understand.

If you or your child are struggling with any aspects of the exams please do not hesitate to contact us for help. This is your child's one chance of exam success and we wish to support every single family.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Campbell', written in a cursive style.

S Campbell NLE  
Headteacher