

Wilmslow High School

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Dear Parents and Carers

February update for Parents and Carers of Year 11 students

Our Year 11 students are most successful in their summer examinations where there is the greatest contact between school and home.

We will therefore provide you with monthly updates in the run up to the summer examinations so that you are aware of the key events for Year 11 students and parents, which we would urge you and your son or daughter to participate fully in.

The key events

Date	Action	Purpose
February/ March 2019	Knowledge is Power revision sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This sequence of four revision technique sessions ran originally in the autumn term. It will be repeated in February/ March for students who can increase their grades by improving their revision technique. If you would like these sessions for your son or daughter and have not already expressed this interest to us, please could you contact your son or daughter's Head of House.
Wednesday 6 th February 2019	Revision planning workshop 6.00pm -7.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To give parents and students advice on how to create an effective revision plan.
Week of 11 th February 2019	Maths, English and Science mock examination 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The second mock examination is intended to help students and teachers to track improvements in examination technique and performance from the first mock examination. This will tell students whether their exam preparation is working and where they need to focus their attentions. The timetable for these examinations can be found below.
Exam Tuesdays	Tuesday 26 th February and Tuesday March 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exam Tuesdays provide the opportunity for students to practise completing exam papers in exam conditions and to therefore tackle any exam technique issues before the 'real' exams. The full timetable for Exam Tuesdays will be issued in the March update and before half term in High Notes.

Key messages for February

- Year 11 students should now be using their time between 3.20pm - 4.20pm to attend exam preparation clinics.** We have issued students' initial personalised plans today. Your son or daughter should be working with their form tutor between now and half term to design the right plan for them that uses their time wisely. More information on what is available for our Year 11 students will follow through High Notes so it is important that we have got your correct contact details. If you want to confirm these with us please contact RBrumby@wilmslowhigh.com



It is all too easy for students at this time of year to focus on one or two subjects instead of keeping a balance across their subjects. We would greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that your son or daughter continues to focus on all their subjects through effective planning.

2. **This half term students should be designing their revision plans.** You are warmly invited to our workshop for parents and students on effective revision planning on Wednesday 6th February at 6.00pm.

Advice on effective revision strategies can also be found at the link below and we would strongly advise both parents and students to use these strategies that have been proven to be effective:

<https://wilmslowhigh.fireflycloud.net/key-stage-3-and-4/advice-about-effective-revision-and-learning>

3. **Attendance every day is vital at this point of students' examination courses.** Our students who attend school every day perform more highly than students who miss lessons through absence.

4. **Mock Examination 2**

It is important that students prepare thoroughly for these mock examinations which provide teachers with invaluable information about where to focus their teaching in the run up to the summer examinations, and which will be used to make decisions about entry to Higher and Foundation papers in Mathematics and Science.

In the event of a student not being able to sit an examination in the summer, these mock examinations will provide guidance as to the grade to be awarded.

Maths revision

Below is a link to a number of practice papers (along with worked solutions) that are available on Firefly. Practicing maths by regularly completing past papers is a highly successful way to revise for GCSEs. Students can prepare effectively for the summer examinations by completing the exam papers in the folder and then checking their answers:

<https://wilmslowhigh.fireflycloud.net/mathematics-1/past-papers/9-1-gcse-past-papers-and-solutions>

Science revision

All Year 11 students have an account with MyGCSE Science, an online revision tool that uses a combination of video tutorials and exam-style questions to help prepare students for their GCSE examinations. Past students who used MyGCSE Science felt that it really contributed to their success, which is why this year we have purchased an account for each of our Year 11 students.

Students were sent an email from C Astley on 19th December 2018 explaining how to register for MyGCSE Science and detailing their personal activation code. MyGCSE Science can be found at the link below:

<https://www.my-gcsescience.com/>

English revision

Students should use the revision materials on the English KS4 Literature pages on Firefly, including podcasts on each of the poems from the Power and Conflict cluster. Resources, quizzes and tutorials are also available on Doodle and all students have a log-in to access these.

Details of Mock Examination 2

Y11 Mock 2 Exams - February 2019			
Date	Exam	Start Time	Length of paper
Mon 11 Feb	English Literature	09:00	2h 15
	Biology	13:30	Sep Sci: 1h 45, Combined: 1h 15
Tue 12 Feb	Chemistry	09:00	Sep Sci: 1h 45, Combined: 1h 15
	Maths - Calculator	13:30	1h 30
Wed 13 Feb	Physics	09:00	Sep Sci: 1h 45, Combined: 1h 15

We are greatly looking forward to working with our Year 11 students and parents over the next few months to ensure successful outcomes in the summer examinations and appreciate all that you are doing to support your son or daughter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R E Powley', written in a cursive style.

Ms R E Powley
Deputy Head teacher