



21<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 11 GCSE examination preparation**

As you will undoubtedly be aware, it is now only a matter of weeks before Year 11 begin their final examinations. As parents/carers you will know that during this time, more than ever, it is essential that we work together to support them in achieving the success that will open opportunities for their future pathways. Can I also take this opportunity to make you aware that students will be receiving their exam entry timetable this week.

In preparing for this 'final straight' Year 11 staff have been methodical in carefully scheduling what needs to be taught and to whom to ensure that all students are successful. They have clear plans in place to make best use of classwork, home learning and revision programmes that they expect students to undertake. In addition, teachers will be delivering extra lessons to targeted students throughout the Easter holiday and after school in Masterclasses. Keyworkers will also be in support to offer pastoral wraparound care. Everyone is 'going the extra mile' to support our Year 11 students in achieving the success they deserve, and we know that you, as parents and carers, will want to play your part in helping support your child engage fully with this programme and secure successful outcomes.

This letter aims to provide you with **key information and steps that are essential in helping your child to revise effectively**, make best use of their time and ultimately maximise their outcomes in these upcoming exams. It also includes information about the upcoming **Easter Revision Workshops**.

Key Step	Description	Accessing Help	Checklist
Knowledge Organisers	Each student has been issued with a Learning Cycle 3 Knowledge Organiser (KO). This contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Key information about each exam</li><li>• A revision checklist</li><li>• A revision Timetable</li></ul>	Use this KO to track revision and set goals.	
#Revise100	All students should look to complete at least 100 hours of revision ahead of the first examination. Whilst this might sound a lot, when carefully planned out, it is a manageable and realistic amount of revision. Home learning, Masterclasses and Revision all count.	Students should check off each hour of revision in their KO.	

Revision Timetable	Students have been completing these with their keyworkers every Monday. They can be found in the front of the Knowledge Organisers.	Check and support your child in following their timetable.  The ARC is available every Tuesday -Friday at breaktimes and after school.	
SORT	Students have been taught several revision strategies that are proven to be successful. All these revision resources can be found here:  <a href="#">Poltair School - SORT.</a>  <a href="#">Poltair SORT - YouTube</a>	Check out the weblink and YouTube channel.	
Easter Revision	Sessions are aimed at boosting confidence, reinforcing key skills and providing vital exam technique and revision. A full schedule of sessions is outlined below and were published in last week's bulletin. Some sessions are open to all students who study the subject and others are specifically targeted for individual students based on PPE results. Your child received a letter today outlining which sessions your child is invited to and we STRONGLY recommend that students attend.  Refreshments will be provided but students can also additional snacks/lunch. Students are not required to wear school uniform.	Check the dates below and try to keep them clear for your child. If, when you receive the invite letter, you have any difficulties in ensuring attendance, please let Miss Westley know.	
Masterclasses	These will continue every week from Tuesday to Thursday into the summer term. However, from Easter these will focus on exam technique and past paper practice. The sessions will be aligned with the upcoming exam timetable to enable students to have further support with a subject expert in the days before the exam.	Please encourage your child to attend as many sessions as possible.	
Bespoke Timetables	As we enter the examination period, students will be provided with weekly bespoke timetables every Friday that are tailored to support students in the lead up to the exams. These will include extended booster sessions for each subject.	Check your child is using the timetable and talk through any changes. Have a copy at home to refer to and support your child with organising their time leading up to the exams.	

## EASTER REVISION DATES

Date	Time	Subject
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	10:00am – 2:00pm	English
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	10:00am – 3:00pm	Art/Computer Science
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	10:00am -12.30pm 1:00pm – 3:00pm	Maths Maths
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	10:00am – 1:00pm	History
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	10:00am – 2:00pm	Science
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	10:00am – 2:00pm	Science
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	10:00am – 2:00pm	Spanish
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	10:00am – 2:00pm 10:00am – 2:00pm	English French

Year 11 students have worked exceptionally so far this year, and we are committed to ensure that the journey up to and throughout the exam period runs as smoothly as possible for them. We hope this letter has been clear in outlining the provision available and how you can support your child at home so that we can work together to ensure this is a successful term for this special group of students.

If you have any concerns regarding transport or any barriers to attendance at the Masterclasses or revision sessions that we may be able to support with, please do not hesitate to contact the Head of Year Miss Dingwall [cdingwall@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:cdingwall@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk)

If you have any further questions regarding the revision sessions, or anything else regarding the GCSE examinations then please do let me know [jwestley@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:jwestley@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely



Jacky Westley  
Assistant Headteacher