

REF: GEH/Yr11study/tlb

Monday 21st March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again, Year 11 have made us very proud as they complete their second set of English, Maths and Science PPEs. This is not only great practise for the summer examinations but will also help teachers plan and really focus on any areas where students may need additional support and intervention.

With their GCSEs only 6 teaching weeks away, we thought it timely to update you on some frequently asked questions:

What happens if my child tests positive / does not sit an exam?

TAGs (Teacher Assessed Grades) no longer exist under any circumstance.

In line with previous years, the only way your child will be awarded a GCSE is if they sit the exams. All subjects have more than one exam paper or assessment point. In extreme circumstances (and coupled with medical evidence, for example a COVID-19 positive test result), it may be that the examination board will look at the marks from the first exam paper completed and award a grade from that evidence. Exam papers are deliberately timetabled more than 10 days apart to make this a possibility.

Should your child test positive, or have any other issues, during this time, please ring the school immediately, and Mrs Higginson, Examinations Officer, will communicate with you accordingly. As a reminder, whilst the last exam is 23rd June, the **contingency exam period is up until 29th June**. This is the time exam boards have put aside in case there is any disruption during the exam period - please do not book holidays until after this date.

How should my child be using these crucial last months?

On average, the advice is that Year 11 spend a few hours after school each day, and between 4 – 6 hours a day over the weekend / holiday period, revising.

They have a huge amount of support to help with this:

- Real clarity from teachers who are setting revision tasks and practice questions as homework – see Class Charts
- SORT activities every Friday in tutor time to support students in *how* to revise
- Staffed, quiet study spaces after school every Monday – Thursday, 3-4pm
- A range of intervention in the mornings and afterschool (as an example: English - Tuesday and Friday 3-4pm; Maths - Wednesday 3-4pm and Science - Thursday 3-4pm)
- Parent and student SORT workshops
- A dedicated web page to revision resources: <https://tretherras.net/sort-revision/>

Should your child have any questions or concerns, they must come to speak to us. Their well-being and happiness is paramount, and there is an equal wealth of resources for them to access should they need any support. For now, these links from the Department for Education may be of help:

[YoungMinds](#) is a charity working to improve emotional well-being and mental health amongst children and young people. See [YoungMinds' advice for parents](#).

[NHS](#): See the advice from the NHS: [Help your child beat exam stress](#).

[Family Lives](#) is a charity helping parents to deal with the changes that are a constant part of family life. See Family Lives' advice for [supporting your teenager through their exams](#).

[Relate](#) is a charity offering relationship support. See Relate's advice for [coping with exam stress as a family](#).

[TheSchoolRun.com](#) is a website offering resources to help learning at primary school. See their advice on [helping your primary school child with exam stress](#).

[Teenagers Translated](#) is a website offering information to help parents understand their children during their teenage years. See their advice on [managing exam stress](#).

Do they get study leave?

We have worked hard on a 'Year 11 Leavers' Plan' to get the balance right between recognising the disruption they have faced and understanding that some students need the time and space to revise from home.

Students will be in school until May half term. After half term, there will be opportunities for your child to leave site, provided they are not in an exam, nor in an Exam Masterclass. If they do not want to leave site, independent study areas will be provided.

Please see below the outline of plans to date:

Dates	Phase 1 Attendance compulsory to everything	Phase 2 Attendance compulsory to everything	Phase 3 Attendance compulsory to exams and Masterclasses only
EASTER HOLIDAY			
25 th April – 13 th May Weeks 1 - 3	Normal lessons Finish content Revise and practise		
16 th May – 27 th May Weeks 4 - 5		Exams start Exam masterclasses Normal lessons	
MAY HALF TERM			
6 th June – 23 rd June Weeks 1 - 3			Exam continue Exam masterclasses Revise from home or in school

Masterclasses are subject specific revision sessions, run by specialists, right before the exam. Having this input immediately before their exam can really help students hone their skills and remind them of all those top tips! They are compulsory sessions that could really make a difference.

Students will receive a timetable with all the details on before Easter, so they can be best prepared for their final weeks. This timetable **does not replace their official exam timetable** which should be looked at carefully, checked, and followed every day.

A few things to note:

- Attendance is compulsory, as usual, for everything during Phases 1 and 2, up until May half term
- Attendance is obviously compulsory to the exams and exam Masterclasses after half term, in Phase 3
- However, during Phase 3 (after May half term), should you give permission for your child to be able to leave site to revise from home, please ensure the **reply slip below is signed and returned to their form tutor ASAP, and no later than Thursday 7th April 2022**
- If your child is going to stay at school for Phase 3, there will be study spaces provided.

Celebrating their time at NT:

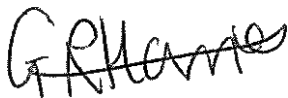
After all their hard work, the class of 2022 certainly deserve to celebrate! There will be a Leavers' Day here at school after their last exam on Thursday 23rd June, with details to follow, and their Leavers' Ball is on Thursday 30th June. KS4 results day is Thursday 25th August, from 9.00am.

We are so looking forward to celebrating the end of KS4 with your child. They have been a pleasure to work with and we know they will continue to make us all proud in this last, final hurdle.

And to you, Year 11 – best of luck! You deserve every success.

Thank you, as ever, for all your support,

Yours sincerely



MS G HARRIES
Deputy Headteacher

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REPLY SLIP: please return to FORM TUTOR. Please return no later than Thursday 7th April 2022

STUDENT NAME:

TUTOR GROUP: 11.....

I give permission for my son/daughter to leave the school site for study leave as per their timetable, from Monday 6th June 2022 (after half term)

PARENT/CARER FULL NAME:.....

SIGNATURE