

Ref: GEH/T&L/tlb

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you to clarify the arrangements for the Year 11 PPEs (Pre-Public Exam / mock exams) this term. There will be further information about this at the Year 11 Expectations Evening this Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October, and we look forward to seeing you then.

### **When are the PPEs and why are they important?**

Most Year 11 PPE exams begin on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November (with Art and Textiles starting on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November). Please find the PPE exam timetable at the end of this letter. This is only **7 weeks away** (and only 5 teaching weeks, due to half term), so students should be thinking seriously about revising the knowledge and skills they'll need to demonstrate.

These exams will help teachers assess where students are and provide vital information to help us plan and plug any gaps in knowledge / skills. Traditionally, they are a good indication of how a student is progressing and help motivate students through the spring term as they head toward their external exams this summer.

Full attendance to these exams will be essential. Students will be expected to comply with rigorous exam conditions. All equipment must be brought in a clear plastic pencil case or wallet. Water bottles must be completely transparent. Phones, as per our behaviour policy, and watches will need to be turned off and kept in bags, completely out of sight, and no ear earbuds / headphones are allowed.

Indeed, as we enter into the final year of GCSEs, it is important to ensure that all students are aware of important rules and regulations surrounding external public exams. We will of course endeavour to highlight these to Year 11 as we approach exam season however, we are not only required to bring this to your attention, but to also ask for your support in encouraging them to read the relevant exam information listed on our school website under '**Exams**' within the **Information** tab. A link to this website has also been emailed out to every student's school 365 email account.

### **What should my child revise?**

The PPEs will assess work that has been taught in Year 11 so far, as well as content from earlier in their GCSE / Vocational courses.

Students have been told what to expect and each department will have uploaded revision materials and resources onto the 0365 Student Shared area by half term (student login required) which can be found here:

[Revision Resources - Year 11 Revision Resources - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Please encourage your child to look through these folders over half term and to work through revision tasks that will be set and uploaded onto ClassCharts.

## **How should my child revise?**



It is so important that students revise for these exams. In fact, students should be continually 'SORTing' their revision, using our NT revision strategy 'SORT', throughout the year.

Students are given dedicated SORT support in tutor time; can access free SORT revision materials from the SORT stations in The Quay; and can access staffed Study Zones in G30 and G33 every Monday – Thursday, 3pm – 4pm.

SORT resources and revision support can be found here (student login required):

<https://newquaytretherras.sharepoint.com/sites/O365StudentShared/SitePages/SORT-Your-Revision.aspx>

Thank you for those who attended the Parental SORT revision workshop - we're delighted you found it so useful. Don't panic if you missed out, there will be more happening throughout the year!

## **What if my child needs extra support?**

- The Year 11 intervention programme (attached again for ease) is already busy, and we've been impressed by their commitment so far. Our specialist teachers are always here to help and offer their time after school.
- Encourage your child to talk to their form tutor or Head of Year if needed – the NT Well Being Hub has trained professionals who can offer additional support.
- Reassure your child that these assessments are to help them achieve their potential. Teachers need to know where those learning gaps are in order that we can re-teach content and support them through their GCSEs.
- A targeted revision SORT session, during school time, will take place for some of our Year 11, but all students are encouraged to talk to Mr MacQueen, our Independent Study lead, for top tips!

Our students' well-being is central to all our decision making and we know that the more prepared they feel, the calmer any exam experience will be – success will come from hard work, a culture of drive and high standards in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Good luck Year 11 – you can do this!

Handwritten signature of Ms G Harries in black ink.

**MS G HARRIES**  
**Deputy Headteacher**  
**Teaching, Learning and Curriculum**

Handwritten signature of Miss J Lloyd-King in black ink.

**MISS J LLOYD-KING**  
**Head of Year 11**

