



24th April 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

## Y11 Key Updates

### Quick read:

1. Targeted intervention will continue until the exams. Voluntary sessions are also available. Please see appendix 1 for the schedule.
2. Thank you to those of you who joined us for our Year 11 Targeted Academic Parents' Evening on Monday 20th March 2023. Please note that all of the parental support materials are still accessible on our website to assist you in supporting your child to focus their [revision](#).
3. We politely request that you read the full details of the phased dismissal section as this details the process whereby students will access school and support sessions up until the end of their last examination. This also gives details about the additional English session we are offering over half term.
4. All students have now signed their 'Statement of Entry' to check they are entered for the right examinations and tiers.
5. Follow the link in this section for the exam schedule for [Y11 summer examinations](#).
6. Celebration planning for our Y11 events are now almost finalised. Mrs Brosnan will write to you separately about the finer details but we would like to remind you that the Y11 photograph will take place on Friday 28th April.
7. Senior prefect applications are now being considered for those students who will be staying with us in our Sixth Form. Interviews will be held during the induction days.
8. I would like to wish all our Y11 the very best of luck in their forthcoming examinations and note that we are all very proud of their efforts so far.

### Intervention

Since last June, students have been targeted for intervention based on question level analysis during formal assessments (exams that take place in the exam hall) and informal assessments (those which happen in the classroom setting). Through targeting students who need teacher support in specific topics or areas, over 70% of the cohort have accessed support which has improved their skills in identified areas of weakness.

Due to the success of this programme, we will be continuing this from now until the exams commence. These sessions have taken place during tutor time, at lunchtime and after school with our dedicated members of staff giving up their time to support our students who need it most. In addition to the targeted sessions, we will also continue to run voluntary revision sessions as we have across the year. Some subjects have now ceased as they have completed their coursework and/or examination. The subjects which will continue to offer this support for this half term includes English, mathematics, science, Spanish, French, child development, geography, history, health and social care, music, drama, PE and general revision support and skills. If your child has been targeted for intervention, their subject teacher will inform them. Your child is welcome to attend any of the voluntary intervention sessions they wish for the subjects they study.

For ease, I have added the link here to this term's updated schedule as an appendix at the bottom of this letter.

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### Y11 Targeted Parents' Evening

Thank you to those parents/carers who were requested to and attended our Y11 Targeted Parents' Evening on Monday 20th March 2023. 131 parents/carers were asked to join us to receive feedback in one or more subjects. If you were not asked to attend the virtual event, this was because your child's teacher did not have any concerns about your child's progress.

I wrote to you separately to request feedback for this event. The evening was received extremely positively by those in attendance - we appreciate your feedback as it helps to inform us on how to improve our planning for future events. We fully appreciate that due to other commitments some parents/carers were unable to attend the event. If you requested feedback, you will now have received this or if you raised a query through our feedback form, Mrs Brosnan will have been in touch to help you resolve this.

### Phased Dismissal

Students in Y11 have been issued with their Phased Dismissal document today. This document is basically a diary including lessons, examinations, slam and booster sessions and should be used as a record of their personal revision. I have added some answers to some key questions which I hope you find useful.

#### *What is the purpose of a phased dismissal?*

*Students in Y11 are expected to attend all lessons for each subject up until they have completed every exam for that subject. This is to support your child in attaining the best possible results in their examinations. In the classroom, your child will be with their class teacher who will be preparing focused revision activities. As the subject specialist, your child will have the best support at hand should they become stuck.*

#### *What is a 'slam' session?*

*A slam session usually takes place in the morning or afternoon before the examination is due to take place. It lasts between thirty and sixty minutes. Your child's teacher will remind them of the pertinent points for success on the forthcoming exam paper, checking that key revision has been completed and retained.*

#### *What is a 'booster' session?*

*A booster session takes place just before the exam. It allows your child the opportunity to access last minute support - whether that is last minute checks on subject related facts and tips or pastoral support to help calm your child's nerves.*

#### *How can I help with my child's planning for the remaining weeks?*

*Ensure your child is completing their own personal revision to boost all the support they are receiving in school. Help them plan their revision if they are struggling and if you need any help, please refer to our [Parental Support area](#) on our website which I directed you to in my last correspondence. Ensure they are also having some 'downtime' - it is essential for their mental health and well-being that they sleep and eat properly, as well as spending time enjoying their chosen hobbies.*





### *How has my child been informed about this process and expectations in examinations?*

Your child has been informed about the phased dismissal process and expectations in the examinations through assemblies and tutor time at three points across the year. Students have also been given information about revision strategies through our 'learn to revise' drop down day, LIFE sessions and in class. In today's assembly, all students were informed of how to access and personalise their 'Phased Dismissal Document'. They will complete this with the support of their tutors over the course of this week.

### *Why do we not allow students to revise from home throughout the exam period?*

There are many distractions at home - mobile phones, access to social media, watching the television and playing games consoles. These are all removed in school. The government also promotes students attending school for this support to avoid students going back over at the last hurdle. There is also the aforementioned benefit of having their class teacher on-hand. Research and the Department for Education recommends that this is the best way to support students in achieving their full potential. Your child should attend school full time up until **Friday 9th June**. After that, they should attend school for all lessons, booster sessions and slam sessions for all subjects for which they still have exams in. Any student who uses school transport will be able to revise quietly in the OLC in between those lessons.

### *How can I check if my child has told me about all of the sessions they need to attend?*

Parent/carer access to the master copy is available via the exams section on our [school website](#). This document contains all lessons, exams, booster and slam sessions that are available for every subject.

### *Half term English Revision Session*

Please note that due to the way the examinations have been scheduled, English Language Paper 1 is due to take place on Monday 5th June which is the first day back after the half term break. Due to the exams prior to the break most students will not have had an English language session for two weeks including the break. To support students in their preparation for this, we are running an English session in the half term break on Thursday 1st June from 9:15-11:15am. Please complete this [google form](#) to indicate if your child will be attending this session. Unfortunately, school transport does not run during the holidays so students will have to make their own way to and from school.

### *Statement of Entry*

Your child was issued and has checked and signed their statement of entry to ensure they are correctly entered for all examinations. This final check is part of our quality assurance process and is considered best practice by the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications).





## Examinations

Your child will be issued with their personal timetable this week. They will receive it via their school email and be given a hard copy. This is to give them time to check for any issues - which we are not expecting. If they do think there is a problem, they should contact Mrs Herbett, Examinations Officer, via [j.herbett@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:j.herbett@stokesleyschool.org). A master copy with the dates of all examinations is available on the [school website](#):

- *Please note that although it is extremely unlikely that the exam boards will wish to move any exams into the contingency window, all students need to be available to sit examinations up until the date of the final contingency day of Wednesday 28th June.*
- *All exams set on strike days will go ahead as planned. This includes photography and MFL speaking tests which are due to take place this Thursday.*

## Celebrations

### School Photograph

*The Y11 year group photograph will take place on Friday 28th April. Parents/carers will be able to purchase a copy of this should they wish to.*

### Leavers Celebration Assembly

*Leavers' assembly will take place after the final examinations have concluded. We anticipate that this will take place on Friday 23rd June during the morning.*

### Prom

*The Prom Committee has met several times with Mrs Brosnan, Mrs Weschenfelder and I; the wider student body has also been invited to have a voice on various aspects of the event. Tutors of students in Y11 will be completing the final official check in with their tutees to discuss whether each student is on track to be eligible for an invite - which the vast majority are.*

*Mrs Brosnan will write to you separately to give you the finer details of the costs, timings and order of the celebration events.*

### Senior Prefect Applications

Y11 applications for this position were opened prior to the Easter break. We are thrilled to have over 20 applications so far. Mrs Jeal, Head of Y12/13 and I will review these applications and invite students to interview, which will take place after the examinations during Sixth Form Induction week.

## Summary

Our advice to our students for the coming weeks is simple: *stay focussed in every lesson, work hard, revise little and often at home and ensure you build in downtime into your schedules to relax and recuperate.* It is really important for your child to take part in activities other than studying to support their mental health and well-being. Even if your child doesn't participate in activities outside of school, we are still encouraging our Y11 students to be involved in one of the fifty clubs we offer. Two of the highlights of my week are seeing our Y11 students participating in my Dance and Volleyball Clubs on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes respectively.





I have also been really proud of the way in which Y11 students are rising to the challenges of forthcoming examinations. Many students have already completed elements in some of their examinations. Just before the Easter break, our hospitality students' showcased an incredibly high standard of cooking. We posted pictures on our social media channels, but this did not do justice to the delicious delicacies and intricate presentation created for their assessment.

In the next couple of weeks we have our PE moderation where I am sure our amazing athletes will demonstrate fantastic teamwork and individual skills, our art and photography exams and our MFL speaking tests. All of these students have been tirelessly preparing over the last few weeks with some even coming in over half term to get ahead!

Everyone at school is going above and beyond in their support of your child at this crucial time. Should you have any subject specific concerns, please contact your child's teacher or tutor. If you have any general questions or concerns, please contact Mrs Brosnan, Head of Y11 on [d.brosnan@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:d.brosnan@stokesleyschool.org) or if you have any queries about the content of this letter, please contact me on [j.darbyshire@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:j.darbyshire@stokesleyschool.org).

Your faithfully

Mrs J. Darbyshire  
Deputy Headteacher  
Achievement and Standards





## Appendix 1

Interventions and revision sessions which are offered weekly in addition to the phased dismissal booster and slam sessions.

Day	When	Year Group	Subject	Student groups
Monday	Tutor	Y11	Spanish	Targeted
Monday	Tutor	Y11	English	Targeted
Monday	Lunchtime	Y11	Science Drop-in clinic in lab 130	Open to all
Monday	After school until 5:30pm	Y11	General Revision	Open to all
Monday	Lunch	Y11	Geography	Open to all
Tuesday	Tutor	Y11	Spanish	Targeted
Tuesday	Tutor	Y11	Science	Targeted
Tuesday	Lunchtime	Y11	English Language	Open to all
Tuesday	Lunchtime	Y11	Computer Science	Open to all
Tuesday	After School until 4:30pm	Y11	Geography	Open to all
Tuesday	After school 3:30-4:30pm	Y11	History	Open to all
Wednesday	Tutor	Y11	Science	Targeted
Wednesday	Tutor	Y11	History	Targeted
Wednesday	Lunch	Y11	Health and Social	Open to all
Wednesday	After School until 4:30pm	Y11 until 4:30pm	English	Open to all
Wednesday	After School until 4:30pm	Y11 until 4.30pm	Maths	Open to all
Wednesday	After school until 4:30pm	Y11 until 4:30pm	Child Development	Open to all
Thursday	Tutor	Y11	Maths	Targeted
Thursday	Tutor	Y11	French	Targeted
Thursday	Lunch	Y11	Geography	Open to all
Thursday	Lunch	Y13	Sociology	Open to all
Friday	Tutor	Y11	Geography	Targeted
Friday	Tutor	Y11	French	Targeted
Friday	Lunchtime	Y11	English	Open to all
Friday	Lunchtime	Y11	Science Drop-in clinic in lab 130	Open to all

Music and Drama continue to take place on a one to one basis and are scheduled individually with the member of staff.

