



23rd November 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Y11 Parental Update

Quick Read

- Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended Y11 Parental Support Evening on Wednesday 27th September. Any parent/carer who could not attend and requested feedback will have now received that information.
- Y11 Academic Parents' Evening will take place on Monday 11th December from 3:30-6:30pm. You will receive separate correspondence in the next week to enable you to make appointments for this event.
- This year's prom is booked for Monday 8th July 2024 at Guisborough Hall. Mrs Bailey and the tutor team are conducting their first check to determine whether your child is currently on target to attend prom. You will be notified by Mrs Bailey if your child needs to make improvements to match any of the criteria to attend this or any other celebratory events. Details of the requirements can be seen in the appendix at the end of this letter.
- Students in Y11 will finish their first set of formal assessments on Friday 24th November. Students begin a second set of formal assessments from Monday 5th February until Monday 26th February 2024 with half term placed in between week one and two.
- The current Y11 Interventions timetable is detailed below, you will be notified if your child is required to attend any intervention after the first set of formal assessments has been analysed.
- Tassomai parental update - if you have not yet signed up to receive the weekly updates please do so.

Thank you and a date for the diary - Y11 Academic Parents' Evening

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended Y11 Parental Support Evening on Wednesday 27th September. We fully appreciate that due to other commitments some parents/carers were unable to attend the evening. Any parent/carer who could not attend and requested feedback will have now received that information. 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 events. I would especially like to thank you for your patience on the evening as due to the unexpected absence of two members of our team, the timing of this event went on longer than originally planned in order to ensure you received all subject presentations.

Please note that all of the parental support materials from the event were emailed to you and are accessible on our website to assist you in supporting your child to focus their [revision](#) across the year. There are also materials available to help you support your child's mental health and well-being.

Y11 Academic Parents' Evening will take place on Monday 11th December from 3:30-6:30pm. You will receive separate correspondence in the next week to enable you to make appointments for this event.

Y11 Celebrations, Assessments and reminders

We are delighted to inform you that we have secured our prom venue and date. Many venues in the local area no longer offer their facilities for proms and those that do will only cater for 150 guests or less. Our Year 11 cohort has 189 students. Due to this, we secured two venues for consideration: Gisborough Hall in Guisborough and The Red Lion Banquet Hall in Northallerton. All students in Y11 were given a vote with the pro's and con's of each venue. The student vote chose Gisborough Hall. The date of the prom is Monday 8th July 2023 from 6 - 10pm.

In September, students attended an assembly with Mrs Bailey and I where we detailed the expectations students are required to achieve in order to attend Year 11 Prom and other important end of year events. I have added this information at the end of the letter in an appendix. I am pleased to report that the vast





majority of students are exceeding our criteria and are on track to attend prom. Year 11 tutors will shortly advise all students if they need to make any improvements to any of the criteria.

It is crucial that we continue to work together to ensure that your child fulfils all expectations to tackle this year successfully. We genuinely appreciate your ongoing support.

Y11 Formal Assessments

This week, your child began the second half of their November formal assessments. Following completion of the assessments, our teaching staff give vital feedback to students in the W/C 27th November and 4th December. This is a vital part of the learning process and will help students understand the areas they need to focus on. Attending these lessons is crucial.

The second set of formal assessments will run from Monday 5th February until Monday 26th February with half term placed in between week one and two. This is to replicate the experience your child will have in the summer set of public examinations where your child will have a break at May half term. We would once again like to extend our offer of support, so please contact us should you need any further assistance. As part of the contingency plan, the DFE (Department for Education) has requested that we keep all papers from one set of examinations which are sat under full JCQ examination conditions. We will be keeping these papers for this purpose.

Prior to each set of examinations, your child attends an assembly with me to remind them of the expectations for the formal assessments and that this information would form part of a Teacher Assessed Grade in the highly unlikely event that we were requested to do so by the Department of Education. As part of this assembly, I will remind your child that it is really important to revise but that they must balance this with activities to support their mental health and well-being - be that going for a walk, reading a book, playing sports, attending a club.

Your child will be given their results in a mock results day as part of a special assembly after completing all of their assessments in February.

Y11 Interventions

The following targeted interventions and revision sessions have been running since September. The overall current timetable is as follows:

Day	When	Subject
Monday	Lunch	PE
Monday	After school 3:15pm-5:30pm	General Revision - LIFE CLUB (Support from a range of subject teachers to assist you with your revision.)
Tuesday	Tutor	Maths
Tuesday	Lunch	Science
Wednesday	Tutor	Maths
Wednesday	Lunch	Health and Social
Thursday	Tutor	Geography
Thursday	Tutor	French
Thursday	Tutor	German
Thursday	Lunch	Media Studies
Friday	Tutor	Media Studies
Friday	Tutor	French
Friday	Tutor	English

The OLC is also available for quiet study at the end of each day. Sessions can be booked directly with our OLC Manager.





Following analysis of PRP1 and the first set of formal assessments, students will be selected to attend revision or support sessions dependent on need. These will begin W/C 11th December.

Tassomai Update

In September, during our Y11 parental support evening, we introduced you to Tassomai. This resource is an app which students are expected to use to consolidate learning in science, English, geography and history. This is not the only revision we would expect students to complete but does help students to retain pertinent knowledge.

Mrs Telford has recently written to you to ask permission for us to share your email address directly with Tassomai. This is to enable you to receive weekly updates about your child's engagement in this vital revision tool. Parents/carers receiving these updates found it extremely useful in supporting their child to complete regular revision.

The updates will tell you:

- How many daily goals have been completed this week in each subject;
- Their weakest topics in each subject;
- Provides recommended resources to support revision in the weaker topics.

Despite the pressures of Y11, I have been really proud of our Y11 students who have continued to maintain their commitments to their clubs, fundraising and student leadership activities. Y11 students continue to represent us in sporting fixtures, in our upcoming Christmas Concert and it is inspiring to see how many students attend Monday's study club until 5:30pm every Monday evening. Student leaders also continue to perform their duties admirably.

I would like to thank you personally for your continued support and hope that we can further work as a team to ensure that your child is on target to succeed in their end of year examinations.

Mrs Bailey, Head of Year 11 and the tutor team are available to support you with any queries relating to this letter or anything at all to do with your child in Year 11. Mrs Bailey's email address is jbailey@stk.areté.uk who will ensure your query is directed to the right member of the team. I can also be contacted on jdarbyshire@stk.areté.uk if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Jane Darbyshire
Deputy Headteacher
Achievement and Standards



Appendix

A reminder of the information shared in a previous letter, as mentioned above:

The Prom

We launched our 'Passport to the Prom' expectations to students during assembly in September 2022 and explained this to parents/carers at our Y11 Parental Support Evening. Students will be reminded of the expectations and be informed if they are on track to attend by tutors in the next two weeks.

This year's prom is booked for Monday 8th July 2024 at Gisborough Hall.

We would like to share with you the criteria for a student invitation to our prom for this year:

- *maintain a positive attendance record of least 96% attendance;*
- *at least 98% punctuality to school;*
- *100% punctuality to lessons;*
- *maintain an exemplary behaviour record with no marks for defiance towards staff;*
- *attend all required intervention sessions and complete independent work for example the use of our apps including Tassomai.*

As in previous years, we believe it is fair for all students who work hard every day to be able to celebrate with their peers. The vast majority of our Y11 students will achieve the criteria we have set out above and will be invited to join us for this and our leavers' celebration. When in attendance at Gisborough Hall, the students represent our school community and we expect our students to demonstrate respect at all times. Any student who falls short of our expectations in school will not be considered for an invitation to the prom.

Students who meet the criteria will receive a formal invite on Monday 6th June 2023. Students should not assume that they will receive an invite up until that day. However, tutors are speaking to their tutees individually at set points across the year to let them know if they are on target to go, or if they need to make improvements in a certain area. Please be aware that the invite can be rescinded at any point up until the date of the prom if a student fails to maintain the standards set out above.

Y11 Leavers' Presentation

We hope to host our leavers celebration on Friday 28th June 2023. Due to the longer period of examinations which has been put in place as part of the contingency outcome, we need to see if there are any further changes before finalising the details of this event. We will write to you closer to the time with more information.

An invitation to the leavers' celebration is also subject to the same expectations as the prom. The invitation to the leaver's assembly will not be issued until the last week of June 2022.

Payment for Prom and Leavers Hoodies

Mrs Bailey will write to you with the details of how to pay for prom and the leavers' hoodie after half term. Our preferred method of payment is ParentPay. If you require any information regarding ParentPay, please contact the Finance Office. Students will also be able to purchase a leavers' hoodie. The cost of this is approximately £16.

The cost of the Prom ticket will be no more than £48.

