



9th November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

Pupils have spent time with their pastoral tutors today discussing their upcoming Mock Examinations. They have been issued with their timetables, revisited revision strategies and explored how to prepare for these effectively. I wanted to also write to you again, to offer some guidance in terms of how to support your child with their revision as they prepare for their upcoming Mock Examinations, but also for their final GCSE and KS4 qualifications in the summer term.

The attached booklet will take you through the details of the November/December Mock Examination schedule. It provides you with some common revision strategies and an explanation of which strategies are the most effective, but also outlines some common mistakes that pupils can make when revising. It really doesn't matter if, as a parent, you are not up to speed with all of the content of your child's GCSEs or BTECs, but you can play a vital role in motivating and engaging your child in their studies. Simply by showing an interest in what your child is learning will have a huge impact on motivating them to want to do their best. Spending time with your child can be an important part of revision, getting them to explain what it is they're learning - it really doesn't matter whether you understand what they're learning as long as you are confident that they do.

As I mentioned in my previous support pack, success doesn't just happen - we need to succeed on purpose; we need to plan to perform. But that doesn't mean pupils working themselves into the ground. In order to be our most effective selves requires balance and overall wellbeing. Pupils need to be well rested and well nourished; they need to have fresh air and exercise if they are to be at their best. But they do also need to work hard alongside this. Your role as a parent is paramount in helping ensure that your child has the right balance in the forthcoming months. This may look different for different people, but you know your child best and can help them achieve the balance that is right for them, and enables them to perform at their best. Pupils should all have a revision timetable [in their Closing the Gap booklets], so this would be a good starting point for discussing how much time pupils are dedicating to their studies outside of the school day.

If you have any particular concerns or queries, or would like further guidance, please get in touch with either myself, or your child's Head of House. The usual house email addresses are below:

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Yours Sincerely,

Mrs C Lennox
Assistant Head Teacher

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