



19 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 students continue to settle in well to the spring term and I hope enjoyed the Careers Fair on Thursday. This was a great opportunity for them to meet representatives from a wide selection of companies, colleges and the NLS Sixth Form to gain information into choices and opportunities available post Year 11.

RE Mock Examination Window

In preparation for the RE GCSE this summer the second RE Mock Examination will be on **Tuesday 6 February**. Students are to be in the canteen no later than **8.45am** so we can smoothly get all students into the Theatre to start the exam at 9.00am.

We believe giving students multiple opportunities to get used to the exam environment, will inevitably support them in the long term and help to reduce levels of worry and anxiety. Familiarity in location and expectation is really important for success to happen in the Summer GCSE exams. We also hope this will be a good foundation for all the other subjects that are examined in the following year.

The vast majority of students listen carefully to all messages, but it is really important that students follow all advice from every colleague involved in examinations. JCQ (Joint Council of Qualifications) set the examination rules and they are very strict regarding any form of incorrect communication between students. Any inappropriate behaviour has to be reported to JCQ and they have the power to award a non-grade, but in the worst circumstances, they could cancel all grades, from every examination, in that time period. At school, we regular discuss the importance of exams and the approach taken towards them with students. Can we ask that you have similar conversations at home and discuss the strictness that is employed and must be followed.

Support from the RE department

The RE department are offering revision classes and a Parent/ Carer information session to help support student prepare during the period running up to their GCSE RE Exam and a variety of revision resources are available to students.

Revision Sessions For Parents on TEAMs

On Tuesday 30 January the Head of RE will be running another revision information session for parents from 6 - 6.30pm, via TEAMs, to discuss how best to support your child as they prepare for the February mock. This will be particularly useful for parents who were unable to attend in October; those who attended are welcome to join again to hear the key messages and advice. The TEAMs invite will be sent nearer the date.

Student Revision Classes- when and where?

There will be a revision session for all students after school **Monday 5 February** on the first floor of Humanities in the RE classrooms.

After February half term RE revision sessions will take place on alternate Wednesdays and Thursdays each week, focusing on specific exam topics and exam structure, in preparation for the final exam. A revision timetable will be emailed to students and parents as soon as it is finalised.

For those students who have commitments after school on these dates, but would like a little extra support with key topics, we will also be offering an RE revision breakfast club every Tuesday from 8 - 8.30am in H118 after half term; breakfast snacks will be provided.

Revision Resources

Revision resources are available on G4S. Students have also received paper copies from their RE teachers. After February half term students will be set past papers on G4S to complete each week and they will be given six revision booklets, to support their preparation for their final exam.

Advice on how to revise

The most effective ways to revise are:

- Creating flash cards for key concepts and religious quotes and teachings
- Completing revision clocks tests knowledge of key topics
- Completing essay tables is a good of encouraging students to consider arguments for and against potential essay questions
- Completing practice questions in timed conditions allows students to get a better feel for timing and working under pressure

Parent Revision Information Evening

On Wednesday 10 April we are holding an information evening for all parents/ carers on how to support your child with their revision. Subject Leaders in Mathematics, English, Science, as well as RE, alongside Mr Atkins, will present to share their expertise, information and tips of the trade in supporting revision at home. Handouts will be available to take away and there will be an opportunity to speak with the presenters at the end. Arrival is from 5.45pm, with a 6pm start. It will finish at 7.10pm. We look forward to seeing you at this event.

Why attend the revision evening on 10 April

We hope to see as many parents as possible at this event as this is 4 weeks before the final exam, as parents will be given lots of advice on how to support and encourage your child to revise at home. The Head of RE will be bringing in copies of all revision resources including the revision booklets for the final exam and will explain how to get the best use out of them. The Head of RE will also stay behind afterwards to answer any specific queries you may have.

Year 10 Parents Evening

Please note the Year 10 Parents Evening is Monday 15 April. Please keep this date clear. Further information will be shared closer to the time.

Year 10 Work Experience

Whilst the majority of parents/carers have now completed the consent form a few remain outstanding and it is key we have the form completed. You can access the form [here](#)

We launch Work Experience as early as possible in the year for two reasons:

- It ensures our students secure their work experience prior to the other local schools launching their own work experience event, so that companies give priority to our students.
- Processing the placements is a lengthy placement and it ensures all the necessary checks on each placement are carried out well in advance of work experience week.

The next deadline for securing and uploading placement details onto our Grofar platform is **Friday 2 February**

We ask that parents/carers support school in encouraging students to secure their placements as soon as possible. A list of the companies who supported students last year can be found [here](#)
If students are having difficulty or have any questions please encourage them to see Mrs O'Donnell in the Careers Office C043.

Best Wishes



Mrs P. Clarke
Year 10 Lead