

Dear Parent/Carer,

Students have now all completed the 'walk and talk' mock exams and will be able to share with you how they found the process and what they have learnt about the preparations they need to make for the real mock exams in February. The end of this first term is the point when teachers encourage students to start their revision for the May exams. The new style GCSE exams, have a much greater content than previous exams and students will need to ensure they leave sufficient time to revise in order for them to maximise their chance of success at GCSE.

In order to support students to start revising I have included a list provided by subject staff with independent revision study that students should complete over the Christmas period. All homework should be completed by Tuesday 7th January.

Subject	Details
English	The English department have provided a flow chart revision handout 'Seven Steps to Successful Revision' for your child to revise the necessary skills and knowledge for each English exam paper as well as exam questions and reading inserts. SMHW has copies of the exam papers: the reading inserts, the questions and the mark schemes as well as some links to a website called padlet. The links will take you directly to some revision materials and, in some cases, a power point to guide you through the exam paper. Your child should use the padlet website, exercise books, text guides and any other resources they may have to help focus their revision before attempting to answer the exam question. They can then mark their answer using the mark scheme.
Maths	Students need to start preparing for the mock exams which could be any topic from the GCSE syllabus. Students will be set specific pieces of work on Hegarty maths but should also use this programme to revise any topics they feel unsure of.
Science	Students to: complete the weekly revision tasks set by RDO since Sept using paper 1 info cards also on SMHW Also: start to review paper 2 using paper 2 revision cards, also on SMHW
History	All students to make a start on next scheduled homework in the published homework calendar
Geography	Complete the revision task that is on SmHW.
MFL	All students have been asked to purchase an Edexcel Revision Guidebook which are on sale at school. There is a homework schedule to follow which provides clear guidance on key vocabulary linked to the guidebook where they can further practise the skills of reading, writing and listening. There are links on SMHW to three main websites/apps which also help to build and practise grammar and vocabulary. Students have their Speaking booklets which contain their prepared answers to possible questions given to them in their speaking exam. Revision work books used in lessons may also be taken home to practise the skills of translation and photo description.
Cultural studies	Students have been provided with a revision schedule, a reminder of the topic will be put onto SmHW
Drama	Students should be revising for the Blood Brothers exam at present. In order to consolidate this information, students need to create a mind map on the play, making points about-

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	Plot, themes, genre, staging, style, relationships, proxemics, social, historical, political, voice and physicality of characters, stage directions, lighting, costume and music.
Design and Technology	Revise by making flash cards or spider diagrams on the following topics; Materials and their properties, Energy, materials, systems and devices, New and emerging technologies.
ICT	Students are to complete an exam paper that was given out in class
ART	1A CEN and 11C SMA: Students are to complete the design ideas booklet given to them in order to have their 10-hour exam piece fully planned and organised. This booklet specifically addresses AO2, AO3 and AO4 and will ensure students complete and evaluate four potential final piece ideas as well as explore thumbnail design concepts. The work produced will be collated onto smART sheets and form 25% of their final 60% portfolio/coursework GCSE grade. 11C CEN: Students will receive a photographic record of all of the smART sheets completed and will need to annotate the artwork on each sheet. These annotations will be guided with a literacy support pack and on return to school they will be included on the smART sheets themselves. All of the work will then be assessed to achieve their final 60% portfolio/coursework GCSE grade.
PE (GCSE)	Students are to complete the work on question strips and exam questions provided by their class teacher
PE (OCR)	There is an OCR exam (real thing) on Wednesday 8th January. Pupils will need to revise over the holidays using their books, past papers and revision sheets which they will be given to take home. Revision sheets will also be put on show my homework. There is also a compulsory revision session after school on Tuesday 7th January.
Health & Social	Revise by making flash cards or spider diagrams on the following topics; Factors that affect health and wellbeing, interpreting health indicators and resulting health plans.
Catering	Revise by making flash cards or spider diagrams on the following topics: The structure and operation of the hospitality and catering industry including job roles, Factors affecting the success of restaurants and hotels, Health and safety, Food poisoning.
Food and nutrition	Revise by making flash cards or spider diagrams on the following topics; Food nutrition and health, Food science, Food safety, Food choice, Food provenance.
Engineering	Revise by making flash cards or spider diagrams on the following topics: Understanding the design cycle, Development of new products, Wider influences on designs.
Music	Students to complete the assessment on 'drum kit'

Subject staff look forward to meeting you on the parents evening on 21st January from 5-7pm, an appointment letter is included in this pack.

For any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Leanne Clay
Assistant Headteacher