

PS267/25-26/AAN/KLA

Thursday 29 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your continued support as we approach this important time for Year 11 students. **Mock exams start Monday 2nd February** and are an essential step in preparing for the summer GCSEs. Consistent attendance is crucial to help students gain experience, build confidence, and identify areas for extra support.

We also understand this period can feel challenging. If your child has any worries—academic, emotional, or personal—we encourage them to reach out for support. Early conversations with our staff can make a real difference in reducing stress and helping students feel confident and supported.

Year 11 Compulsory Core Lesson 6 Sessions and Homework Expectations

As we move into the final stages of preparation for the GCSE examinations, we are also making some important changes to support Year 11 students in maximising their outcomes.

Attendance at Core Lesson 6 will be compulsory for all Year 11 students. These sessions are designed to provide targeted support, consolidation of key content, and focused exam preparation. They will run from **23 February - 26 March** inclusive.

The sessions will run on the following days:

- **Tuesday – Science**
- **Wednesday – Maths**
- **Thursday – English**

Each session will take place after the normal school day and will **finish at 4:00pm**.

Consistent attendance to Period 6 sessions has a significant positive impact on students' confidence, understanding, and examination performance. Registers will be taken, and attendance will be monitored in line with school expectations.

In addition, there will be a **change to core (English, maths and science) homework expectations** for Year 11 students. From now on, weekly core homework will consist of:

- **1 hour of Sparx** (Reader, maths and science), and

- **30 minutes of exam practice** set by the relevant core subject.

This approach is intended to reinforce learning, build exam technique, and ensure students are completing regular, focused independent study in preparation for their final examinations. Again, a range of support for this is available.

We strongly believe that consistent attendance at Lesson 6 and engagement with the revised homework expectations will have a significant positive impact on students' confidence and performance. We are aware that a small number of our students are unable to attend and we will endeavour to find a suitable alternative for them.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership as we support our Year 11 students through this crucial period.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards

Anne-Marie Anderson

Deputy Headteacher