



Our Ref: SCL/KON

September 2022

ALL YEAR 11 PARENTS/CARERS

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Welcome to Year 11

I hope that you and your families are well and have had a restful summer break.

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself as the GCSE Strategy Manager. In this role I will be supporting students as they embark upon their final and most important year of their secondary school career. Having taught many of the students on their journey through the school, I know that our Year 11s are a fantastic group of young adults, who I look forward to working closely with this year.

I would like to begin by highlighting the importance of **attendance** and recent events has made this more important than ever. While we appreciate that there may be times when your child is too unwell to come into school, it is important to note that absence could result in; missing key information from the syllabus, missing important deadlines, missing revision sessions and missing important information about Post 16 opportunities. Furthermore, attendance and punctuality form an integral part of the references we send off to colleges and training providers. It is with this in mind that we do not authorise any holiday requests in Year 11 and chase up all absences. I sincerely hope that you can support us in this by ensuring that your child comes into school and maintains good attendance in Year 11.

In order to provide the best support for Year 11 students it is vital that we work together with you as parents/carers. There will be a number of events throughout the school year that will support you and your children as well as keeping you informed of your child's progress. As such, I would like to invite you to the '**GCSE Evening- Preparing for the Year Ahead**'. This is an opportunity for us to share our plans for Year 11 and some strategies to support your child to achieve their best possible outcomes. There will also be an opportunity here to purchase revision resources. This evening takes place on **Tuesday 27th September at 7.00pm** in our Theatre. **Please confirm your attendance using the attached reply slip.** I hope to see as many of you as possible there.

An integral part of Year 11 is preparing for exams in the form of revision. Whilst the expectation is that some of this will happen at home, we do also run revision sessions after school. We run these sessions from the very start of Year 11 so that students can manage their revision over a longer period of time rather than just cramming at the end of the year. Please see rota below:

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2
MONDAY	CATCH UP – Departments to arrange	CATCH UP – Departments to arrange
TUESDAY	OPTION A	OPTION B
WEDNESDAY	MATHS	OPTION C
THURSDAY	ENGLISH	SCIENCE
FRIDAY	CATCH UP – Departments to arrange	CATCH UP – Departments to arrange

A	B	C
Computing	Art fine	Art Photography
French	Business Studies	Business Studies
German	Computing	Citizenship
Geography	Citizenship	Drama
History	Dance	Food Tech
PE	Food Tech	Geography
	History	Graphics
	PE	History
	Resistant Materials	Music
	Textiles	Resistant Materials

Some students will be asked to join these revision sessions by their class teacher, other sessions are open to the whole class. This information is shared with students by their class teacher and their Form Tutor. If you have any queries please contact the school, alternatively you can email the teacher directly.

Year 11 is a massively important year for students as they complete their GCSE studies and prepare for the future. Now is the time for them to begin planning their next steps after leaving Dormston, whether that is college studying A' levels, T Levels, BTECs, or apprenticeships. To help prepare for this, we will be looking at a range of careers and training options with students this term. In a tough economic climate and job market it is more important than ever to be equipped for the world of further education and work. An integral part of this preparation is our **Post 16 Evening** which will be held on **4 October 2022**. Further information on this event will be sent in a separate letter.

Key Dates for the Year Ahead

DATE	EVENT	
Tuesday 27th September 2022	GCSE EVENING: PREPARING FOR THE YEAR AHEAD 7pm Theatre	This is an opportunity for all parents to know what the year ahead entails. We will also share some strategies on how you can support your child through the year.
Tuesday 4th October 2022	POST 16 EVENING 6pm onwards Theatre & Stands	This is an opportunity for all parents & students to meet a range of Post 16 providers in order to help make informed choices about your child's next steps.
Tuesday 18th October 2022	A Level Workshop 3-4pm (Classroom TBC)	King Edward V1 Sixth Form will be delivering an advice and guidance session for all students considering A Levels.
October Half Term		
November 2022	Progress Data available for parents/carers	Parents can see the most recent progress data via Go4Schools. This should include predicted grades and effort data.
Thursday 10th November 2022	Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening	This is an opportunity for all parents/carers to meet teachers for all subjects to discuss their child' progress.
W/C 5th December 2022	Mock Exams	This is the first set of mock exams this year.
Christmas Holidays		
Wednesday 26th January 2023	Year 11 Reports	This is accessible via Go4Schools.
February Half Term		
W/C 27th February 2023	Mock Exams	This is the second and final set of mock exams this year.
April 2023	Progress Data available for parents/carers	Parents can see the most recent progress data via Go4Schools. This should include predicted grades and effort data.
30th March 2023	Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening	This is an opportunity for all parents/carers to meet teachers for all subjects to discuss their child' progress.
Easter Holiday		
May 2023	GCSE WRITTEN EXAMS BEGIN	

Finally, I would like to wish you and your child the best of luck for this year, in the meantime if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact myself on either 01384 816395 or email scarroll@dormston.dudley.sch.uk

I am looking forward to working with you to ensure we have a successful year that leads to a positive future for your children.

Yours sincerely

S Carroll

Mr S Carroll

Deputy Headteacher

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REPLY SLIP

Year 11 GCSE Evening - Preparing for the Year Ahead - Tuesday 27th September at 7.00pm – Theatre

Student Name: Form:

I/we will be attending the Year 11 GCSE Evening - Preparing for the Year Ahead on Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 7.00pm.

Signature: Date:

PLEASE RETURN THIS REPLY SLIP TO PUPIL RECEPTION BY FRIDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2022.