Dear Parent,

The Year 11 Mock Examinations are scheduled to take place during the week beginning Monday 8 December. The examinations are obviously an important measure to gauge current attainment and also to give a clear indication of a student's potential in the final GCSEs.

In order to assist Year 11 in preparing for the Mock Examinations we launched at the start of this term our new Virtual Learning Environment or VLE. The VLE is a platform that allows schools to share information with all members of its community and allows them to interact with each other. There are various platforms in the educational market and we have decided to go with a product known as FROG.

Year 11 are the first year group to be introduced to FROG and it is important to stress at the outset that this project is very much in its early stages and is by no means a finished product. As a school, we see this as a project which will take us over the next three to five years to fully utilise all its functionality and capabilities. Initially, Subject Leaders have prepared a variety of revision materials for Year 11 in the 'department' section of FROG. In addition, FROG will allow students to:

- Access lesson and revision materials from home through a web browser.

- Access their homedrive and Rdrive wherever they are.

- Access school information such as their weekly timetable.

- Navigate the platform through a variety of devices – tablets, laptop, PC or phone.

Year 11 have also been given access to GCSEPod which is a resource that can be accessed via FROG or via the GCSEPod app. GCSEpod covers 20 subjects and features over 3000 audio-visual podcasts. This provides over 400 hours of curriculum-relevant learning and revision material, written by teachers, narrated by professional voiceover artists and enhanced with text and images to engage the user. Each title features several 3-5 minute chapters which present students with relevant, easy-to-digest information.

All Year 11 students have attended an assembly on how to use FROG and also had a hands-on session during form period last week. They have all been issued with instructions for both products which I attach for your information. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding FROG or GCSEPod.

Yours sincerely,

J A Dixon   A M Payne
Deputy Headmaster   I/C FROG

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Introduction

The school VLE is called Frog and will enable you to access school learning materials from home through a web browser. Each subject has an area on Frog with lesson materials and revision resources. Initially, just revision resources will be available for Year 11 but over time more learning materials and homeworks etc. will be added, plus extra-curricular information about the school council and house competitions, for instance. The VLE will allow you to access your school home drive, access the R drive, see your timetable and perform other useful tasks. *Please remember that the school's policy for the acceptable use of ICT applies to the VLE as well.*

Logon and Set Your Password

First open your web browser (Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Firefox, etc). In the browser address bar, type in **https://frog.kings.lincs.sch.uk** and press Enter. (Or, open the school website and click on the Frog link on the bottom of the school homepage.)

Frog OS - Windows Internet Explorer

https://frog.kings.lincs.sch.uk

Next, enter your username and password to login. Your username is **firstname . surname** – as in school, and your password is your date of birth, e.g., 12031998. If the *day* you were born is less than 10, do not enter a leading 0, i.e., enter 4121998 not 04121998. You can make as many attempts as you wish to login!

Username   andrew.payne

Password   ●●●●●●●●●●

Login

Change your password before accessing Frog

New Password   Password

Confirm Password   Confirm Password

Update

You should now be prompted to set your *new* password. Ideally, make this the same as your school password but it can be different if you wish. Enter the password twice to confirm it. Press Enter or click **Update** to save your new password. (If they do not match, a warning will appear and you will need to make them match.)

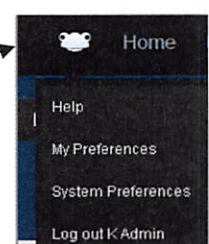The Frog *dashboard* should then appear to show that you have logged in correctly....

Home   Help   Search

Edit

THE KING'S SCHOOL
GRANTHAM
Isaac Newton's School

Welcome to the King's School VLE

Home   Departments   Extra Curricular   About FROG VLE   Year Groups   Careers

Welcome to the King's School VLE (virtual learning environment). This is a safe and secure way to access learning resources through your web browser. Click on Departments or Extra Curricular above and navigate to the area required. Alternatively, use of the Search box to find the subject/topic required. Please remember that the school's policy for the acceptable use of ICT does apply to the VLE

Area's live on VLE now include;
Year 11 Revision Materials;
Business Studies for 11, 12 and 13;
Computing for Year 12;
Music for Year 10;
PE for Year 12

Google Search
Search the internet using Google

School Website
Check what's happening in school

Click on the **Departments** tab and you can see all the subjects. To close a subject, click the **X** on the *top right* of the page. ↓

On the Home tab you will also see a link to GCSE Pod for revision podcasts.

To logout, first click on the Frog icon top-left, then choose *Log out.*
My Preferences allows you to set your own background colour-scheme and to change your password. You <u>must</u> keep your password secure.

Home

Help

My Preferences

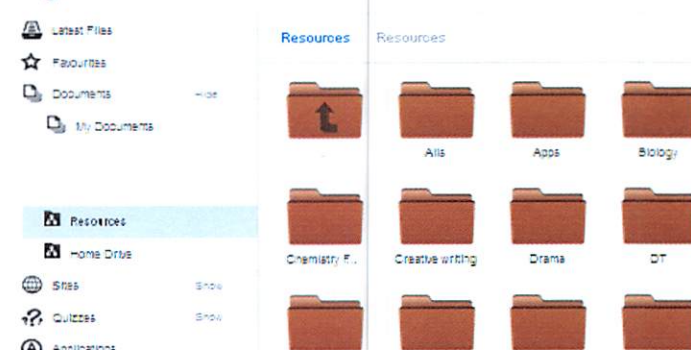System Preferences

Log out K Admin

The Frog Interface

- **School Dashboard:** displays the school dashboard. After logging-in, all users see the school dashboard. Click the first circle to return to the school dashboard.

- **Timeline:** displays a timeline showing recently added curricular or extra-curricular sites shared with you, assignments, shared files.

- **Personal Dashboard:** displays your personal dashboard which you can customise to show your timetable, the R drive, your Home drive and so on. Only you can access this area.

Search: allows you to search for sites and assignments stored on Frog.

Frog Drive: allows you to find and store your own files on Frog (in My Documents) and see sites, quizzes, surveys etc. staff may have shared with you. You can also see your Home drive and the Resources (R) drive. You might choose not to store anything directly on Frog because you can access your Home drive.

Notifications: shows messages for recent events such as new sites, surveys and so on.
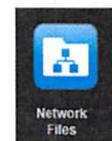
Customise Your Personal Dashboard

Click on the 3rd circle on the Frog menu bar and open your personal dashboard. The personal dashboard can be used to place links to the school drives, show your timetable, create a notepad, etc. Now click the **Edit** button and you can add/remove items from your personal dashboard.

First try a different theme. Click **Settings** and you can set a new name for your dashboard and choose a different theme (the theme sets the colour scheme).

Next click **Page** and you can choose a page layout with a certain number of boxes. To add new pages, click +. Then click **Page** again to give the new page a name and choose a layout.

Inside each box on a page you can now place widgets. Click the **Widgets** tab and *drag* the required widget onto your dashboard, e.g., the Network Files widget. Then click **Settings** to choose which drive to link to (the R drive, or your Home drive). Click and drag the Timetable widget to place your timetable on your dashboard. To remove a widget from your dashboard, just click the red cross next to it. To test your dashboard, click **Save Changes** and click the **X** to exit the editing mode. Your personal dashboard can therefore give you quick access to useful areas.

If you try to access your Home drive or the school R drive, you may need to enter your *school* username and password. If prompted for these, make sure you enter **grkin\firstname.surname**.

gcsepod 2.0
education anywhere

What is it?

- One website, one Apple app, over 3,500 audio-visual podcasts
- Content produced specifically for mobile devices, tablets and PCs
- Designed to squeeze exactly the right knowledge you need for exam success into short 3-5 minutes chunks
- Helps you with learning, homework and revision

How do I get it?

When your school has informed you that you have been registered with GCSEPod, simply follow these steps to activate your account.

1) Go to www.gcsepod.com and click "login"
2) Click NEW HERE? GET STARTED
3) Enter your name, date of birth and choose your school
4) Select a username and password (to be used when you next login) and select the subjects you study

Key features

Playlists

Create a new playlist, give it a name, add some podcasts and save. Watch the playlist online to brush up on your knowledge or download it and take it out and about with you on your device.

My GCSEs

Keep yourself organised by viewing a list of all your exams in subject or date order. View an exam playlist to see all the podcasts relevant to that exam, select the areas you find tricky and download to watch on the way to school.

Assignments

View homework set by your teacher, watch the podcasts they have selected and complete questions to help test your knowledge on a topic. Results are instant so you can see which areas you still need to work on.

Downloads

Android/Blackberry/Windows users can download to a computer first or straight to your device. Apple users can download to iTunes or install the iPhone/iPad/iPod Touch app and save the podcasts for offline viewing.

f Facebook ▶ YouTube 🐦 Twitter

Telephone: **0191 2111 999**

Email: **info@gcsepod.com**