

Ref: U:\Handbooks\Y11 GCSE rev February 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Subject Tutors will be delivering a series of revision sessions at lunch and after-school during term 4 and 5. A copy of this schedule is enclosed for your information. Also enclosed is a Revision Guide to assist your son in preparing for his final GCSEs. It goes without saying that if your son is going to fulfil his potential in his GCSE examinations he will need to be organised, work hard and revise thoroughly. There are specific things which a student can do to boost his grade and achieve a high number of A* and A grades. The pages of this booklet and revision sessions are designed to help your son achieve high grades.

Revision materials are also available in department areas of Frog our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and GCSEPod. Frog and GCSEPod can both be accessed via links from the homepage of the school website. Students can also access their school homedrive and Rdrive through Frog. GCSEPod covers over 20 subjects and features over 3000 audio-visual podcasts written by teachers, narrated by professional voiceover artists and enhanced with text and images to engage the user. The department areas of Frog can only be accessed from a student account and not the parent portal. Students may also wish to download a free app called Gojimo available for iOS and Android. Alternatively they access it via computer at www.gojimo.com. This app covers every major subject at GCSE and has over 160,000 free revision quiz questions.

Our aim at King's is for every student to reach the highest academic standards of which they are capable, and to give themselves the best chance of achieving what they want to in the future. The grades that are achieved at GCSE have a significant impact on the types of Universities and employers they can later apply for and the higher number of A/A* grades they achieve the more choice they will have later.

Examinations can be a stressful time for all concerned and it can be difficult to decide how best to support your son. There is clearly a balance to be struck between being supportive and getting involved in the whole process, whilst at the same time allowing your son to develop independent skills and a sense of personal responsibility. Parents can shout from the sidelines but cannot, ultimately, revise for their son.

GCSE examinations start on the 15 May and we shall continue to teach Year 11 classes throughout the examination period. We shall expect all students to attend timetabled lessons until Friday 26 May. After this date staff will continue to provide timetabled lessons until Tuesday 20 June. Students will only attend lessons in those subjects that they still have to sit an examination. Students shall be free to go home after the last lesson of the day if they wish to; alternatively they may do some quiet and supervised revision in the library between lessons. There may be some students who are required to follow a full and individualised timetable during this period if we still have concerns regarding their effort and attainment.

All students who are intending to return to Sixth Form will be expected to attend the Year 12 Induction Week starting on the 3 July. This will provide a full week of A Level teaching and many subjects will introduce and start the AS course. There will also be homework and holiday work may be set. Please note that success in the Sixth Form is less likely without completion of this Induction Week.

I hope that your son will use the Revision Guide, FROG, GCSEPod and ask his teachers for additional advice and aim high – all students in Year 11 are capable of achieving very good grades in the summer. They should use the next few months wisely and I will look forward to congratulating them on their achievements in August.

Yours sincerely

J A Dixon

Deputy Headmaster