

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to share our thanks with those of you who came along to our 'How to help your child revise' evening on Thursday 26th October. We hope that you found the advice and guidance helpful as we now begin our period of preparation ahead of the December mocks. We will be sending out a version of the presentation to parents/carers to ensure that you all have access to the guidance, and in particular, the subject specific support for English, Maths and Science. A copy of the parent support booklet which was provided is [available here](#) on our school website.

As we mentioned during the presentation, the next 6 weeks will be incredibly important in supporting students with their independent revision to ensure they can complete their mock exams confidently and maturely. It is vital that students are encouraged to fully apply themselves to these assessments, putting in their very best efforts to provide us with an accurate picture of their progress, which will determine future programmes of study and support.

Staff have now shared details of all revision sessions, which will be available to students over the next 6 weeks. Whilst these sessions should not be viewed as an alternative to independent revision, they can be helpful in revisiting key concepts, supporting examination practice and clarifying any misconceptions students may have ahead of their mock exams. Students will be given their own personal copy of the intervention timetable, but [here is a link](#) to where you can find the full list on the school website. Where a student has been specifically 'invited' to a revision session, we do ask for your full support in ensuring that they attend. Inviting students to particular intervention sessions is only ever a supportive decision in making sure we are equipping students with the tools to help them succeed. For some students, revisiting key examination practice under the guidance of subject specialists is the most effective way to help them in securing the key knowledge that they require.

We are always mindful that the preparation period before examinations can cause stress and worry to some of our students. It is important to remind students that feeling some stress and worry before important examinations is to be expected and is a normal response to such a situation. However, should you become worried that your child is becoming overly stressed and upset, please do get in touch with Miss Crowder so that we can do our best to support. It may be worth reminding your child that our **Mental Health and Well-Being Manager, Miss Newton, is running an 'Exam Preparation Drop In' session each Monday lunchtime in S108**, exploring top tips in managing exam stress. These were extremely popular and valuable with last year's cohort, and we encourage all students who are feeling apprehensive or worried about how to cope with the pressure of examinations to attend!

As mentioned at our recent revision evening, we would like our parents and carers to work alongside us in supporting students with their mock examination preparation. With that in mind, we would like all of our parents and carers to write a short letter to their child, which we will place in mock results envelopes, for students to read alongside their results in January. You won't be aware of their results at the time of writing, so we are asking you to offer them words of encouragement and motivation which will help them to keep going in the new year as course content nears completion and revision becomes paramount ahead of GCSEs. You are very welcome to drop any handwritten letters into Main Reception or email them to ariley@lymmhigh.org.uk. Please can we have these by **30th November**.

Finally, in supporting mock examination over the next 6 weeks, please remind students of the following:

1. Being in school every day and on time is essential to make the most of the preparation time available and support progress.
2. Use the first progress report (being sent shortly) to help students identify those subjects that they need to prioritise as part of their independent revision. This report can also highlight attitude to learning and attendance which may need attention and improvement to support mock preparation over the next 6 weeks.
3. Ensure students have created a personalised revision timetable to organise their independent study and allow them to prioritise those subjects that they find a little 'trickier'. Students will receive their own copies of these this week and will be supported by tutors in completing them, but a [link to further blank copies is on this webpage](#) should they need them.
4. Ensure students know which [intervention sessions](#) are available to them and ensure they attend these.
5. Students need to know what their mock examination timetable looks like. The overall timetable can be [found here](#), and students will shortly be receiving their individual ones.
6. Remind students that they can seek support from their form tutor, pastoral manager, head of year and Miss Newton if they are struggling to cope with examination pressure.

Students have made a tremendous start to Year 11 so far, and we have been most impressed by their eagerness to work hard and achieve. I am confident that by working together and sharing the messages noted above, that we can encourage and motivate students to perform to the best of their ability.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E Feast
Deputy Headteacher