

Dear parent/carer,

I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break and your Year 11 child found time to relax and unwind as well as focus on revision for their upcoming GCSE and vocational exams. A big well done to the many Year 11 students who attended school over the Easter holidays. It has been great to see their positive work ethic and determination to succeed.

For most students, the exam period starts on 10<sup>th</sup> May with Biology papers for both Combined Science and Separate Science students. For a small number of students, it will start slightly earlier on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. You can continue to access the exam dates [here](#) and students will receive their personal exam timetable this week via Form tutors.

**Please read the following information carefully as it contains important details about the exam period, revision and study leave:**

## From 22nd April – 24<sup>th</sup> May (May half-term)

Attendance to school full-time is compulsory for all students. Students are not permitted to study at home and must be in all lessons as normal unless they are sitting an actual exam. We would ask for your support with this, even if your child pushes back against it. Our teaching staff are a highly experienced and expert group of people, many of whom also work for the exam boards themselves, marking GCSE exam papers for students from other schools. This allows them to gain a significant edge compared to staff in other schools, and passing on this knowledge to students about exactly what an examiner is looking for in their answers is more often than not the difference between achieving one grade or the one above. Heads of Faculty and Heads of Subject have worked hard putting together staggered revision that will run up until 24<sup>th</sup> May. We urge you to send your child to school every day in the run up to half-term to take full advantage of this.

Please note the following:

**Core PE lessons** – these lessons have now been moved into classrooms where PE staff are supervising quiet revision for all students. Students have been asked to ensure they bring revision materials with them and any equipment to ensure these lessons are highly productive.

**Subjects where students will have completed all coursework and/or exams before 24<sup>th</sup> May** (e.g., Art, Photography, Fashion, Health & Social, Digital IT) – again, these lessons will remain in their timetabled classroom where teaching staff will supervise quiet revision for all students.

**All other subject lessons** – these will continue as normal if there is still an exam to be sat in the subject. Attendance to all timetabled lessons is compulsory in the run up to May half-term.

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## 24<sup>th</sup> May (May half-term) – 19<sup>th</sup> June (final exam)

From 24<sup>th</sup> May, study leave begins for Year 11 students, and they can revise at home if they choose. However, if students or parents would rather students came into school to revise, there will continue to be provision for this in independent study spaces, supervised by staff. If students choose to come into school, they will need to sign in and out at Student Services so that we know who is here at any point. They can also email their teachers if they need to see them while they are in school. We will also be offering afternoon/evening online revision sessions. **A full timetable of these sessions will be sent to you as soon as possible and reminders will be regularly communicated on Class Charts. If you or your child do not have a Class Charts log-in, please contact our IT department at [ithelpdesk@lymmhigh.org.uk](mailto:ithelpdesk@lymmhigh.org.uk) so that you don't miss these important reminders.**

We will be offering exam 'warm-up' sessions on the day of each GCSE/BTEC exam. These will take place in the Main Hall at 8.15am for morning exams and during period 3 for afternoon exams. These will be a final check in with subject teachers and the chance for us to remind students of the most essential 'Top Tips' for the exam. These are designed to feel relaxed and informal, and act as a confidence boost. During this time, we would encourage students to speak to subject teachers should they need any final explanation of exam technique, and again we really urge your child to attend.

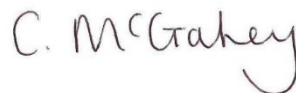
As you know, the Year 11 Prom at Walton Hall takes place on the evening of 27<sup>th</sup> June. The Year 11 Leavers' assembly will take place on the morning of 27<sup>th</sup> June in school – more details to follow but students need to be in school uniform and bring a spare shirt with them if they'd like to get it signed after the celebration assembly.

We hope this letter explains the next couple of months but if you have any questions, please get in touch with either of us, Miss Crowder or Mrs Lambert. We'd like to take this opportunity to wish our Year 11 students the very best of luck with their imminent exams and thank you in advance for all support and encouragement you are no doubt providing for them at home.

Kind regards



N. Dixon



C. McGahey