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Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the start of the GCSE exams, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your ongoing support and cooperation. As you will be aware, the GCSE exams begin on **Monday 16th May** and last for **five weeks**. I met with Year 11 in assembly on Tuesday morning to talk them through what will be happening in terms of lessons and exams over the coming weeks. Form Tutors are further reinforcing this information during period 0. A reminder that Period 0 starts at 8:15am Monday to Thursday and is a compulsory part of Year 11 curriculum time where exam content and preparation is continuing to take place.

Normal timetabled lessons will continue to run until all exams in a subject have been completed. Where possible, students have a one-hour revision session either the day before or the morning before sitting the GCSE exam. These revision sessions are compulsory and are highly beneficial to how your child performs in their exams. Students must attend all revision sessions in full school uniform and bring the correct equipment.

Where students have sat the final exam in a subject, (so have essentially 'finished' it), they will still attend the lesson for supervised study where they can revise for their other subjects. Students must bring revision materials with them to these sessions. Appropriate materials may be revision cards, past exam papers, mark schemes, model answers and note paper or subject exercise books. Students need to be active in these sessions and not simply reading notes. As I said to Year 11 in assembly, time now should be spent on practicing answering questions a number of times. This will help them in recognising what a question requires, initiating their response with a correct answer that gains the marks available on the exam.

I have included a copy of the **Exam and Revision Timetable** to inform you when key revision sessions are taking place. Please familiarise yourself with the timetable as some sessions are scheduled over weekends and half-term. Period 6 sessions will also be continuing for subjects that are still to be examined and are shown on the timetable. Form Tutors will be displaying the timetable for the week ahead during Period 0.

I can confirm that the official **last day** for Year 11 is **Thursday 23rd June**. On this last week, there will be changes to the usual scheduled lessons. On Monday 20th June all of Year 11 have a Science exam. This exam will start at 9am and finish at 10:20am for Combined Science students and finish at 10:50am for Triple Science students. After this exam students are free to leave. There are no teaching sessions immediately after this exam as we acknowledge students are coming to the end of a demanding five-week period. We will be holding compulsory Science revision sessions for all students on Tuesday 22nd June Period 1 to 3 and



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on Wednesday 23rd June Period 1 to 2. Students are free to leave at the end of these sessions unless students study Further Maths where revision sessions will be held (these are shown on the timetable).

The **final exam for the majority** of students is the **Science exam on Thursday 23rd June at 9am. All students are invited to our leavers service at 11:20am in Latchford Methodist Church** which provides the final opportunity for students to join together as a year group. Students are required to attend in full school uniform. The service will be a celebration of the students' time in our school and further instructions will be provided regarding the behaviour expectations in what we hope is a very memorable experience.

Many thanks for the role you are playing in encouraging your child to revise. Your son/daughters revision should have increased significantly over recent weeks with their revision continuing each evening through the exam period. As a guide, students should be spending two hours each evening preparing and revising for them exams. One of the best forms of revision is answering past examination papers and creating and reviewing summary notes/que cards/knowledge organisers. Please ensure that your son/daughter is active in their revision and revising several subjects each evening to ensure their revision is balanced.

I hope that **results day on Thursday 25th August 2021** will be a rewarding day for your child. I wish them well in the weeks ahead and thank you for your support once again.

Yours faithfully

Mr J. Koltan
Senior Assistant Headteacher
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