



23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers

## Year 11 – Updates

I would like to begin by giving specific praise to our Year 11 students for their conduct during the latest mock examination series. These are vital in ensuring students close the gaps in their learning and embed the key skills needed to be successful in their upcoming exams.

We understand that the final terms of Year 11 can be both an exciting and challenging time for students, as they face their final exams and decisions about their future. To this end, I am writing to inform all parents about upcoming support available this half-term.



"Work Hard," "Be Kind," and "Take Responsibility" are the guiding values that shape our school culture and the foundation upon which we build a supportive and enriching educational experience for all our GCSE students.

## Work Hard

With this being the final hurdle before their GCSE exams we need to be mindful of the opportunities available to be successful but also the pressures that come with it. We want all students to be successful in all their subjects. This will only happen through hard work both in school and at home, listening to their teachers and being fully prepared for school every single day.

### Continuation of after-school 'Revision Hub' Sessions (3.10pm – 4.10pm)

In order to fully support our students and give them the best possible chance of success in their exams and their future, we are introducing after school revision for students.

IT IS AN EXPECTATION OF THE SCHOOL THAT ALL STUDENTS TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND THESE 'REVISION HUB' SESSIONS.

If students have a valid reason why they cannot attend a 'Revision Hub', they can speak to Mrs O'Neill. Please discuss with your child the sessions and support their achievement this year by stressing the importance of their engagement and attendance, just as we will in school. All our teaching staff are dedicated and committed to doing all we can to ensure students achieve the best results possible next summer.

*Work Hard, Be Kind, Take Responsibility.* >





Day	Week-A	Week-B
Monday	Science	Science
Tuesday	Maths	Maths
Wednesday	English	English
Thursday	Choice: History / MFL	Choice: Computer Science / Business Studies
Friday	Geography	

### Form time – (8:45-9:05)

In order to support students in achieving the best possible outcomes in Maths and English, students will have had three dedicated ‘mini bursts’ of English/Maths revision per week, led by Subject experts, in Form Time last term. This was done to great success and will continue for this 5-week half-term. Data from mock examinations will be used to inform if students need to switch subject support.

### Independent Revision

The school has invested in a range of revision material and resources that your child should already have access to and use frequently. It is crucial during this last part of secondary education that your child is revising independently outside of the classroom and in addition to the intervention offered to them. Students have login details for a range of online platforms on their school provided iPad, such as **Seneca**. All of these online platforms are designed to help students revise independently, linking each skill to the GCSE syllabus. Furthermore, staff provide a wealth of revision resources on **Showbie**. If you or your child require help in accessing these, please contact your child’s subject teachers.

## Be Kind

We fully appreciate that for students GCSEs are a challenge and school is here to support them to be resilient. As teachers, we are aware that the build up to exams can be stressful and we will continue to adapt and reflect on what we feel will secure the positive GCSE outcomes we know this year group is capable of. Every child will have a part to play, and every child deserves to be successful. To this end please, please continue to encourage your child at every opportunity to engage with in-school intervention sessions, complete home-learning and remember – as discussed in the parental information meeting - play your part in your child’s revision journey!



### Year 11 Parents Seminars

In order to further support parents in this vital year, the school has partnered with Elevate Education to deliver a range of online parent workshops, running in conjunction with sessions that will be held in school for pupils.

The seminars are packed full of easy-to implement practical strategies and advice. Elevate are proud to say over 15,000 parents used this service last year. The school will be in touch with parents in the New Year on how they can book; look out for invites.

- MARCH 5**      **HELPING YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR EXAMS**  
Maximising exam marks using practice papers and effective revision planning.
- MARCH 19**    **SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD DURING EXAMS**  
Supporting their child in the run-up to exams by establishing good routines in the days before.
- APRIL 30**     **ASK ME ANYTHING (LIVE Q&A)**  
Led entirely by parent questions – we provide actionable, realistic solutions to problems or concerns they may have.

The next seminar is March 5th and focused on helping your child prepare for their exams, full details on how to join will be emailing in the upcoming weeks.

### Rewards

The school has always taken pride in rewarding our students for their effort and attitude towards their studies. Year 11 is a challenging yet rewarding year. For those students that work hard and put in the effort we will do our best to ensure your child is rewarded and recognised. A reminder that Prom is scheduled to take place at the Drayton Mannor Hotel Resort on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Beginning in January, students will have the opportunity to earn ‘prom points’ as rewards, with the top earners rewarded with discounted prom tickets.

## **Take Responsibility**

### Attendance & Punctuality

We all know that attendance to school is also vital, with studies showing that attendance below 90% costs on average one whole GCSE grade. Currently the year group average is 90.4%, which, although above this mark, is a figure I’d like to work together with parents and students to ‘take responsibility’ and improve in this vital year.

It is an expectation that students are on time not only to school but also to all lessons. Where this is not the case, the Attendance Team and/or Year 11 team will be in touch to discuss this and support you with ways to improve your child’s punctuality.



## Key Dates

<b>Year 11 Face-to-face Parents Evening</b>	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
<b>Year 11 Report Issued [containing mock results]</b>	W/C 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
<b>GCSE Examinations Begin</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024
<b>GCSE Results Day 2024</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2024
<b>Year 11 Prom</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Your Year 11 Team

If you have any concerns or queries related to year 11, please see the key members of staff below so that you are able to receive feedback (you should expect a response within 2 working days)

<b>Head of Year 11</b>	<b>Mrs M O'Neill</b>	oneill.m@thecoleshillschool.org
<b>Phase Leader</b>	<b>Mrs S Cooksey</b>	cooksey.s@thecoleshillschool.org
<b>Progress Leader</b>	<b>Mrs L Cooper</b>	lcooper@thecoleshillschool.org
<b>Assistant Headteacher [oversight of Year 11]</b>	<b>Mr J Simmons</b>	simmons.j2@thecoleshillschool.org

Yours faithfully

*J Simmons*

Mr J Simmons  
Assistant Headteacher