

30 April 2018

Dear Parent/Carer and Student,

As we enter the beginning of the summer exam series this week, the Academy would like to write to wish you good luck and remind you of some key opportunities for the last few full weeks of teaching.

Exams begin for our Y11 students on Thursday 3rd May for Art, with the final exam taking place on Wednesday 27th June. In addition to exams taking place, some subjects are still undertaking coursework and controlled assessments so it is important to ensure focus is shared between revision and completion of this work. There are some qualifications such as Microsoft Office Specialist and the Certificate of Financial Education which can be completed during the exam series and shortly after.

All students will be provided with breakfast for each morning exam and this will be available from 8.15 in the heart space. All students need to be in the Academy no later than 8.20am as morning exams are scheduled to begin during tutor time so as not to disrupt learning time following the completion of the exam. If there are any delays in arriving to the Academy for reasons such as traffic or an alarm didn't go off etc. please contact the attendance office as soon as possible so we can prepare for your late arrival.

As students finish exams and coursework they will complete qualifications as they progress through the exam series. As this occurs, students will have personalised meetings where their timetables will adjust to focus on other subjects. Students will finish their Year 11 when all of their qualifications are completed and a sign off process has occurred. Students are required to be in the Academy for the full day and do not receive home study leave. This is to ensure students have access to all resources and staff during the revision period.

In order to support students as they approach the exam series and during it, a fully comprehensive support programme is in operation before, during and after school each day. Weekend provision is now on offer for some subjects; please see your subject staff for details. As we approach the final half term this academic year, staff are offering a wide range of support and revision sessions where those subjects are continuing after half term. Please see the attached pages for this provision along with a reply slip for attendance.

We continue to recommend at least two hours an evening are spent focussing on school work at home following the revision plans that students created with teachers. Students received their individual exam support folder and there are more copies available if needed. Study guides have been given to students and should you require a further copy of the parent support guide, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Whilst your studies in Year 11 are extremely important it is also desirable for you to continue to pursue your other interests, sports or hobbies, both within or outside of the Academy. These will give the periods of relaxation/break from studies which are widely known to increase the effectiveness of revision. There is a full range of sporting activities on offer by the PE department after school every evening, please visit the PE area to sign up.

If you do have any concerns at all at any point during the exam series, please do not hesitate to contact your Form Tutor, Mr McCartney or Mrs Young. We hope that with close contact and support both at home and in school, you will have a successful and enjoyable remainder of the year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Tredinnick', written in black ink.

Miss Tredinnick
Assistant Principal

Advice and guidance for preparation

1. Ensure in your exam subjects where there are controlled assessments and coursework still to be completed you allow sufficient time at home and in the Academy to complete it to the best level.
2. Review your revision timetable today if you have not done so already.
3. Divide each subject into major topic areas, then see how you can fit these into the time you have remaining.
4. Make sure you allow time in the schedule for practice papers. See your teachers for practice papers.
5. Also make sure you allow time for revisiting material prior to the exam.
6. Use active revision methods.
7. Personalise your planner and pin it up at home.

If at any time during the lead up to the GCSE summer exam series you need to talk to anyone, remember, your Tutor, Head of Year or subject teachers will be able to help you. Never carry negative thoughts or worries; it is more courageous to ask for help and support than to go through it alone.

May Half Term Study Sessions

As we approach the May Half Term, staff at the Academy are preparing for study sessions during the break in subjects that still have exams or coursework to be completed. Below you will find details of the dates, subjects and session times.

We welcome students to attend and look forward to students enjoying planned activities in the break. Please ensure you speak with your subject teachers in this week ahead to discuss which sessions you need to attend.

Students will need to make their own way to and from the Academy by foot, public busses or family transport. If there are any serious concerns, which are preventing your transport to the Academy, please discuss these with your tutor. Light refreshments will be available during sessions for students.

In order to reward our hard working students, Mr Derrick is offering one choice from three options to reward you for full attendance at all relevant sessions according to your options. The reward options are as follows:

- One fully paid ticket to the Prom (if you have already paid, you will be reimbursed)
- Lakeside vouchers to the value of £40
- One ticket to either Thorpe Park, Chessington World of Adventures or Alton Towers

Subject	Sat 26 th May	Mon 28 th May	Tue 29 th May	Wed 30 th May	Thur 31 st May	Sat 2 nd June
English		10.00-15.00				
Maths				09.30-12.30		
Science	10.00-13.00					10.00-13.00
Art			10.00-13.00			
Drama					09.00-12.00	
Food			10.00-13.00	10.00-13.00		
MOS					10.00-15.00	
RM			10.00-13.00			

Please complete the reply slip and return to your tutor by Friday 4th May to allow staff to plan their sessions appropriately. We wish you a fantastic half term break and look forward to seeing you during the holidays at the study sessions.

May Half Term Study Sessions

Student name: _____

Tutor: _____

- I will be attending the following sessions, which I have selected below.
- I will not be attending any half term study sessions.

Subject	Sat 26 th May	Mon 28 th May	Tue 29 th May	Wed 30 th May	Thur 31 st May	Sat 2 nd June
English		10.00-15.00				
Maths				09.30-12.30		
Science	10.00-13.00					10.00-13.00
Art			10.00-13.00			
Drama					09.00-12.00	
Food			10.00-13.00	10.00-13.00		
MOS					10.00-15.00	
RM			10.00-13.00			

I am unable to make my own way to and from the Academy for the half term study sessions.

I would like to choose the following reward if I have 100% attendance at all relevant sessions:

- One fully paid ticket to the Prom
- Lakeside vouchers
- One ticket to: Thorpe Park Chessington Alton Towers

Signed (Parent/Carer): _____

Emergency contact details: _____