

17 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 11 March Update

With GCSE Examinations just nine weeks away, I thought this would be an ideal opportunity to update you with information about upcoming plans for students in Year 11.

We are very proud at how our Year 11 students have risen to the challenge and the level of commitment that students are showing to their studies in all subjects, both in lessons and outside of normal scheduled sessions (lunchtime revision sessions, after school revision sessions, study support, tutoring etc).

It has also been fantastic to hear from many students about the amount of time they are spending outside of school with their examination preparations – many students talking about their revision plans, their quiet revision place that they have made at home and the revision strategies and techniques that they have learnt in school and they have applied at home.

More importantly, I have seen first-hand how wonderful the cohort are, ensuring that even at this busy and often stressful time of year, they continue to display the SAX Mindset. This assures me that students will be ready for their next steps in life after South Axholme Academy. You should be very proud of the young people that you have raised – we definitely are!

Over the next pages I have provided you with some essential information about the upcoming events for the year group. The first of which is the Year 11 Examination Preparation evening, which takes place in school on **Wednesday 29 March 2023 between 5.00pm – 7.00pm**.

I look forward to being able to meet you all in person at this event, and if you have any further questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LBullars'.

Mrs L Bullars
Vice Principal

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Every Lesson Counts

With only seven school weeks before the start of the summer examination series, the priority is to ensure that students are making every lesson count. They can do this by ensuring high levels of attendance to school, ensuring that they have outstanding attitude to learning in lessons and that they are completing all home learning to the best of their ability.

Some subjects also involve coursework, therefore, students should ensure that they are completing any coursework elements to the best of their ability, so they are able to go into the summer series knowing that they have already completed some of the qualification.

Lunchtime and After School Revision Sessions

As previously shared with both parents and students, staff have scheduled lunchtime and after school extra revision sessions that all students are invited to. Please encourage your child to attend these sessions. A copy of these sessions can be found on the Year 11 MS Teams channel and is posted in the parental bulletin.

Year 11 Scan 3 Data – Monday 27 March 2023

On Monday 27 March 2023, Year 11 students and parents will receive their Scan 3 data. Like with previous scans, students will receive a target grade and an expected grade.

Target Grades show the grades we expect your child to achieve at the end of Year 11. This Target Grade is generated using Key Stage 2 scores and comparing them with the historic performance of students of a similar ability nationally at the end of Key Stage 4.

You will also find an Expected Grade which indicates the grade, at the present time, we feel that your child is on track to achieve by the end of Year 11.

This grade is generated by subject teachers and takes into account a variety of factors including classwork, coursework, independent learning (homework tasks), assessment data and mock examination data.

Students will also be provided with an Attitude to Learning (AtL). For each subject, students will receive either Outstanding, Good, Coasting or Cause for Concern.

Y11 GCSE Examination Preparation Evening - Wednesday 29 March 2023 from 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Just before we break up for Easter, we are holding an Examination Preparation Evening for Year 11 parents and students. It is important that, if possible, students and parents attend.

The aim of the evening is to support both parents and students with essential examination guidance as well as useful revision tips and examination paper information. We realise how stressful the next few months will be for both students and parents, and we would like to share some useful tips to help you manage these important weeks.

Subject Leaders and teachers from English, Mathematics and Science will be in attendance, holding workshops throughout the evening to provide subject specific information to both parents and students. There will be resources for students to take home from each session to support them in the coming weeks.

The evening will run from **5.00pm until 7.00pm** and students are also invited to attend with their parents/carers (*students should attend in uniform as they do for parents' evenings*).

In addition to the structured talks detailed below there is additional drop-in support located in the Canteen.

- With Me In Mind provide mental health support.
- Mrs Lowry, Examinations Officer will be able to answer any of your queries regarding examinations.

The format of the evening can be found on the following page. A paper copy of this will be provided on the evening.

Students and parents will attend the sessions in form groups. This is to ensure that no space is overcrowded.

Please note due to the potential number of visitors on site, if the first Principal talk exceeds the maximum occupancy of the hall, then parents / students will be asked to wait in the canteen area until the next session starts.

The Principal will repeat his talk at 6.45pm for parents and students who have missed the first talk.

Time	Subject	Location	Students in Form
5.00pm - 5.15pm	Principal Talk	Hall	All students
5.20pm - 5.40pm	Maths, session 1 English, session 1 Science, session 1 General Advice 1	Foundation – Dance Studio, Higher - Drama Studio S2 and S4 Combined – M17, Triple – M19 Hall	F G & H N T & W
5.40pm - 6.00pm	Maths, session 2 English, session 2 Science, session 2 General Advice 2	Foundation – Dance Studio, Higher - Drama Studio S2 and S4 Combined – M17, Triple – M19 Hall	T & W F G & H N
6.00pm - 6.20pm	Maths, session 3 English, session 3 Science, session 3 General Advice 3	Foundation – Dance Studio, Higher - Drama Studio S2 and S4 Combined – M17, Triple – M19 Hall	N T & W F G & H
6:20pm – 6:40pm	Maths, session 4 English, session 4 Science, session 4 General Advice 4	Foundation – Dance Studio, Higher - Drama Studio S2 and S4 Combined – M17, Triple – M19 Hall	G & H N T & W F
6.45pm - 7.00pm	Repeat of Principal Talk	Hall All parents and students who did not attend the 1 st session	

Easter Holiday Revision Sessions

On Wednesday 22 March 2023, parents and students will receive information about the revision sessions that are available to all Year 11 students during the Easter holidays.

These are all face-to-face sessions and will be happening in school. Please note that school buses will not be running during the holidays so students should make their own way to and from school for any sessions.

Please could we ask that you support us and your child by encouraging their attendance at the extra Easter sessions, as I am sure you will agree this is an excellent opportunity for all students.

Year 11 Pre-Examinations Social Event

Students are encouraged to think about their well-being; this is vital to them doing their best throughout the year. Students should: -

- Sleep well
- Eat well
- Exercise
- Have a good balance between work and social time

As students start to increase the amount of revision they are doing it is vital they have a good work/life balance. To help with this, and provide a positive focus prior to the GCSE examinations starting, we have organised a night of bowling at Ten Pin, Doncaster.

The itinerary and costs are detailed below. You can expect a letter with further details and a link to book and pay for places on this trip prior to Easter.

Bowling:	Thursday 11 May 2023
3:10 – 5:30pm:	English revision session in school followed by study support or students return to school at 5:30pm.
5:30 – 6:15pm:	Travel to Ten Pin Doncaster
6:15 – 7:45pm:	Bowling (<i>two games included in cost</i>)
7:45 - 8:30pm:	Travel back to South Axholme Academy and students picked up at school or given permission to make their own way home.

The total cost, including transport and bowling, will be £11.10.

Summer Examination Series

The summer examination series starts on **Tuesday 16 May 2023**.

After Easter, students will receive a copy of the general examination timetable showing all examinations. Students should use this timetable to highlight the examinations that they will be sitting to support them with their revision plans.

Please note that all students must be available to sit an examination on **Wednesday 28 June 2023**, as this is the contingency day set by the examination boards.

Students will be attending school as normal during the summer examination period. Students will be attending their normal scheduled lessons or a pre-examination class when not in an examination.

Full attendance throughout the examination period is vital if students are to perform at their best.

Summary of Key Dates	
Monday 27 March 2023	Scan 3 Reports
Wednesday 29 March 2023	Y11 GCSE Examination Preparation Evening 5.00pm – 7.00pm
Saturday 1 April – Sunday 16 April 2023	Easter Break: Revision Classes in school
Thursday 27 & Friday 28 April 2023	GCSE Art Exam
Tuesday 2 May – Friday 5 May 2023	French & Spanish Speaking Exams
Thursday 11 May 2023	Y11 Trip to Ten Pin, Doncaster
Tuesday 16 May 2023	GCSE Exams Start
Saturday 27 May – Sunday 4 June 2023 Half Term	
Monday 5 June – Wednesday 21 June 2023	GCSE Exams continue
Thursday 22 June 2023	Celebrating Year 11 (<i>further details to follow</i>)
Friday 23 June 2023	Prom
Thursday 24 August 2023	GCSE Results Day