

11 October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 11 October Update

I hope this message finds you well. It has been wonderful to see our Year 11 students return to the academy, fully engaged in their learning as they prepare for their upcoming summer examinations. Their enthusiasm and dedication have been truly inspiring – showing an impressive SAX Mindset.

As we move forward, I want to share some important dates regarding some key information for the upcoming weeks – details can be found on the following pages.

1. Year 11 Scan 1 – Monday 4 November 2024
2. Parents' Evening – Thursday 7 November 2024
3. Year 11 Assessment Weeks – Monday 25 November to Tuesday 10 December 2024
4. Coursework
5. Ofqual Consultation

We recognise that this period can be demanding for students. Encouraging them to maintain a balanced approach to their studies, while prioritising self-care, is essential. We invite them to reach out to their teachers whenever they need assistance or guidance. Students can also speak to their form tutors, PAL – Mr Hickin or any trusted adult in school.

Please contact me should you require any further information that has been shared and thank you for your continued support.

I look forward to seeing you all in person at the parents' evening on Thursday 7 November 2024.

Yours sincerely

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

Mrs L Bullars
Vice Principal

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Year 11 - Scan 1

On Monday 4 November, you and your child will receive their first scan report. This will give you information regarding your child's target grades, expected grades and their attitude to learning. This information can be discussed further with your child's subject teacher during the parents' evening on Thursday 7 November.

I know that students will be having post 16 interviews during the next half term, and many providers are asking students to bring their most up to date scan with them. You may also be aware that some providers use APS (Average Point Score) as an entry requirement. To work out an average point score you need to add all the qualification grades together and divide by the number of qualifications. This information will be shared at the same time as the scan is released (on a separate email); it will also be shared with students during assembly in the upcoming weeks.

Parents' Evening – Thursday 7 November 2024

We are looking forward to seeing you during the face-to-face Parents' Evening on Thursday 7 November 2024, 4.30pm – 7.30pm. Information will shortly be shared about how to book appointments via your Arbor account/app.

This is an important evening and provides you with an opportunity to discuss your child's progress following their first Progress Summary for Year 11.

Local post 16 providers will also be in attendance at the evening, in addition to an independent career's advisor. They will be based in the canteen area, so please do visit them to ask any questions and to get further information.

Year 11 Assessment Weeks – Monday 25 November 2024 to Tuesday 10 December 2024

To help support students in the lead up to their summer examinations, students will sit a formalised assessment period, from **Monday 25 November to Tuesday 10 December 2024**.

The purpose of the assessment period is to enable students to sit their assessments in controlled venues, with external invigilators following JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) examination requirements. The intention of this is to relieve any potential anxiety around the official summer 2025 examination session. The assessments also give students the opportunity to develop further revision strategies, allowing them to show what they can do in an assessment. This will then allow for reflection from themselves and teachers, and the chance for specific intervention to be put in place.

Students will shortly receive a special assembly to discuss their upcoming assessment weeks. During this assembly, the assessment timetable was shared with students. An electronic copy has already been shared with students on Satchel One and the Year 11 Microsoft Teams channel.

A week prior to the assessment period, students will receive a personalised copy of their timetable. This will show venues and seats.

Please see the attached copy of the Assessment Overview for your reference.

Before the assessments begin: -

The first priority between now and the assessment period should be to make the most of regular timetabled lessons, they can do this through excellent attendance, punctuality and active engagement.

Students will also be spending time on their own revision plan, they will be given advice about how to produce a revision timetable and revision strategies. Subject teachers will also give advice and guidance during timetabled lessons, helping individuals with any questions they may have.

It would be extremely helpful if you could support us by:

- Talking to your child about their revision and checking that they have completed a revision timetable
- Encouraging the use of resources available to them to support their independent revision
- Maintaining high levels of attendance and punctuality, as they both have a big impact on their future success

During the assessment period, students should:

- Make sure they know when and where their assessments are, and arrive on time at the venue, with full equipment
- Ensure that students know their seat number (they will be provided with a personalised timetable with this information)
- Be familiar with examination regulations, details of which will be shared with students via the year group team channel.

Coursework

For some subjects there is a coursework element. I know that some students have already completed some of the coursework units at the end of Year 10, but also know that many students are currently working on it.

Can I please ask for your support if your child is completing a subject with coursework. It is really important, for their outcomes, that they complete this to the best of their ability. Subject teachers will be in touch if your child requires any extra intervention, and I would encourage all students to attend any extra sessions advertised.

Ofqual Consultation Formulae Sheets

Ofqual has contacted all schools to invite them to submit their views on proposed adaptations to the assessment of GCSEs in mathematics, physics and combined science for students in England taking exams in 2025, 2026 and 2027.

The Department for Education (DfE) [has confirmed](#) its decision in relation to the subject content for which it is responsible that it is not necessary for students taking exams in 2025, 2026 and 2027 to memorise formulae for GCSE mathematics and equations for GCSE physics and combined science.

DfE has confirmed that any decision beyond these dates is subject to the outcome of [DfE's Curriculum and Assessment Review](#).

As a result of this, Ofqual proposes carrying forward from summer 2024 the provision of support materials, in the form of formulae and revised equation sheets, in the exams for GCSE mathematics, physics and combined science. This proposal relates to exams taken in 2025, 2026 and 2027 and will include the November exams for students taking GCSE mathematics.

South Axholme has already completed their views. Parents and students are also encouraged to submit their views which can be accessed using this link:

<https://ofqual.citizenspace.com/public/gcse-maths-physics-and-combined-science-2025-7/>