

13 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

**Year 11 GCSE Examination Preparation Evening, 5.00pm – 6.30pm  
Wednesday 25 March 2026**

**An Evening with Dr Van der Spoel**

We would like to remind you that on Wednesday 25 March 2026, we will be holding an Examination Preparation Evening for Year 11 students and their parents/carers from 5.00pm-6.30pm. We strongly encourage all students and parents/carers to attend, as the session will provide valuable support during this important stage of the examination period.

The purpose of the evening is to provide both students and parents/carers with essential guidance on the upcoming examinations, along with practical revision strategies, examination paper insights, and useful tips to help students prepare effectively for the final weeks before their GCSE examinations. We understand that this can be a particularly demanding and stressful time for both students and families, and we hope this event will offer helpful advice and reassurance to support everyone throughout the coming months.

To enhance the evening, we are pleased to welcome Dr Martijn van der Spoel, the founder of Glia Learning, as our guest speaker. Glia Learning describes itself as *"a tailor-made educational service empowering people to become more effective learners for life."* Dr van der Spoel will share evidence-based strategies drawn from cognitive science to help students improve their revision techniques, manage their workload effectively, and approach their examinations with greater confidence.

Glia Learning founded by Dr Martijn van der Spoel, a cognitive scientist originally from the Netherlands who has been working in UK schools for over 15 years. During this time, he has gained extensive experience as both a classroom teacher and a behaviour specialist, supporting students to develop effective learning habits and achieve their academic potential.

In addition to speaking during the evening event, Dr Van Der Spoel will also be delivering a series of workshops throughout the school day with selected students. These will include a combination of small group sessions and some individual meetings, designed to provide targeted support and personalised guidance. Further details will be shared directly with the students involved.

We hope that you will be able to join us for what promises to be a highly informative and supportive evening as we work together to help our Year 11 students approach their examinations with confidence and effective preparation.

Yours sincerely

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