



Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

## The Road Map to the Year 11 Mocks on January 20<sup>th</sup>

We have recently met at Parents' Evening and discussed the steps needed to ensure your son/daughter achieves the best they can at this stage in Year 11. This is really important because:

- Progress from the last report will really give your child a boost. Success breeds success, progress leads to further progress.
- The grades from the mocks will identify the next steps they need to take and together we can then focus on the areas that will help them most.

Some important reminders for you and your child:

- All the revision work for each department is now on **the school website under the Teaching and Learning section**. If they cannot find/lose the hard copy, they can access it online.
- The revision work is part of a **five-week programme**, the week until the Christmas break, the two-week holiday and the two weeks in January before the mocks.
- Your son/daughter has been preparing a detailed and comprehensive revision timetable to cover this five-week period. We hope you will encourage them to share this with you and display in a prominent place at home. The real test is sticking to one's intentions and if they do stray from the timetable not to give up, but re-set and carry on.
- Your son/daughter should also have functioning logins for Hegarty Maths. If they have **any** issues with logins, they have this week to ask for a new login.
- We would also strongly recommend Senecalearning.com which offers free revision materials to students and parents.
- We have shared our advice through assemblies and tutor time on how both to revise and how to structure the revision to be most effective: -
  - i) Over the holidays they should not be revising all day, every day as this is not productive and often leads to wasted time as concentration levels fall.
  - ii) They need to divide their time into the three R's
    - **Revise**
    - **Reward**
    - **Recharge**
  - iii) Be clear what days over Christmas they will not work.
  - iv) Assign blocks of time to all other days.
  - v) During their focussed revision sessions all **mobile phones should be kept outside the room they are revising in!** They are a massive distraction and not a good vehicle for revision – **the PC/laptop works for online revision not a mobile.**

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL: Yvonne Powell, OBE  
PRINCIPAL: Stephanie Newman  
REGIONAL ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Victoria Cockram

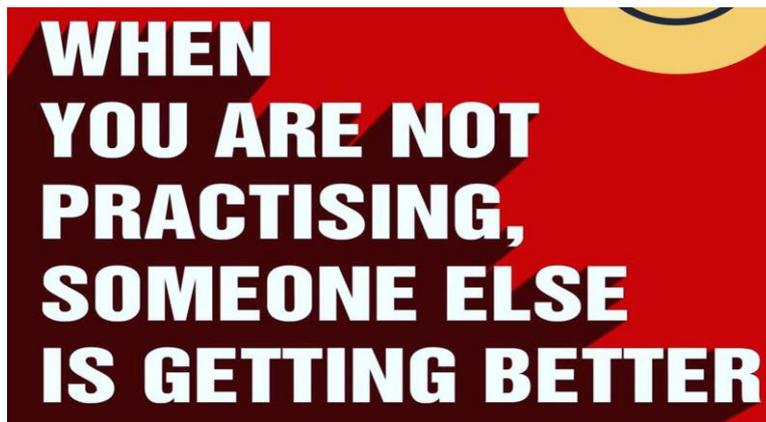


- vi) At the end of each block give themselves a reward, some time on social media, refreshments, a chat, one episode of Netflix. These are not long events but enough time to let the brain refresh and for your child to feel pleased with their accomplishment.
- vii) There will be times when your son/daughter needs to recharge meet friends, play a sport, go to gym, watch something on Netflix. These should be programmed in to their holiday revision time but in a sensible planned way.
- viii) Never let them give up because the tasks seem too great. It isn't and will get considerable easier if they put in a concerted 4-6 hours a day (this can vary from day to day and must include breaks).

Finally, we have talked about the key issues of:

- Memorising and quizzing themselves on what they have learned
- Practising they key areas that they find hard (not the bits they already get i.e. finding which bit of maths on paper 1 they struggle with and practising lots of questions for that topic).
- The final strand, and not to be put first, are the completion of practice papers, mark schemes and examiners reports.

It is important to remember the quote below:



I hope you recognise the thought and planning that we have put in place to ensure your son/daughter achieves the best that they can be in their mocks and then aim even higher from there during

### **The March to May**

Thank you for supporting your child through this challenging time, we are all thinking of their future.

With best wishes

**Mr C Connor**  
**Vice Principal**

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