

The Avon Valley School and Performing Arts College

Dear Parents/Carers,

After almost five years of studying, our Year 11 students have entered their final chapter with us and will begin their GCSE exams on Monday. This can be a stressful time for students but be assured that throughout the exam season our staff will continue to work with them, covering exam topics in lessons, delivering revision sessions, and providing moral support. However, it is also very important to remember the valuable role that parents and carers play in supporting their child through their exams.

Below are some tips for students that will help them in preparing for their exams. We'd be grateful if parents/carers could support with these aspects of their planning.

- Continue to engage with revision Little and often is recommended, don't try to cram the night before. Use Google Classroom, revision guides and the recommended apps/websites
- Check your exam timetable Know when every exam is, check if it's in the morning or afternoon. Do not miss any exams.
- Pack equipment the night before Avoid rushing in the morning of an exam.
- Set an alarm (or two...) Make sure you get up in good time, don't be late, adding stress to your day
- Eat breakfast and have a drink This will give you energy for the exam
- Know which seat you'll be sitting in This is displayed in school before each examination
- Don't compare yourself to others Everyone is different and will have their own routines
- Try your best in every exam Do not give up, use the exam time to its full
- Don't rush Read each question thoroughly, think about the answer, double check what you've written
- Take time to rest, and relax This helps to reduce stress

For all exams, students must wear their normal school uniform and bring the necessary equipment, for some papers this will include a calculator. No phones or watches are allowed in the exam venue.

Please note:

On Friday 27th May, Year 11 can finish at 12.35pm - or 1.05pm if they wish to stay for lunch. An optional revision conference is being offered in the afternoon for students who would like to undertake some additional preparation in Science and English. Students will be required to sign up if they wish to participate. Further information regarding the conference will follow shortly. Finally, below is a list of some of the things students need to do as they prepare to finish their time with us...

- Empty their locker
- Hand in their locker key and receive the £5 deposit refund.
- Return borrowed resources eg: library books
- Donate school uniform, including PE kit and dance top unless it is needed at home.
- Settle any outstanding balance on the School Gateway
- Say goodbye to staff and each other!

We thank you in advance for the support that you will give your child throughout their exam period, and for all of the support you have given them, and us, during their time at AVS. We wish your child every success in the upcoming exams.

Kind regards

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Alison Davies Headteacher