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MEChilternEdge

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Dear Parents/Guardian

## Countdown to the GCSE exams

The countdown to the GCSE exams is now firmly in full swing. With just 19 school days left before the first examination we want to make sure the students and yourselves have a good idea of the road ahead.

This week students have had an assembly outlining what the last few weeks of school will look like and sharing our expectations of them over this period. The slides from the assembly are available to view <u>here</u> and some of the key information is replicated below.

### **GCSE Courses and Revision Classes**

By Easter the taught content of the GCSE courses will have been completed and coursework (NEAs) will have been finalised and assessed. Remaining lessons will therefore be dedicated to supporting students with revision and staff are preparing lessons tailored around the advanced information shared from the Exam Boards in February and the performance of students in the recent PPEs. There will be additional bespoke intervention sessions in place for students at the discretion of individual teachers. Students will be invited as appropriate.

### NEAs

As part of the reformed GCSEs students have completed a NEA or a practical exam in a number of subjects in lieu of coursework. Students will receive their pre-moderated grades over the course of the next week (where they haven't already received it). If students wish to contest the mark they have been given there is a strict, formal process that must be adhered to; a very short window exists for them to raise a query and it can only be done through Miss Bliss, Deputy Head or Mrs Reilly, our Exams Officer.

# Easter School

This will take place between April 19 and April 22. There will be two sessions each day beginning at 9.30am, this time is co-ordinated to match the arrival in the village of the No.25 bus at just after 9.10am. Each subject session will last for 90 minutes and there will be a short gap for refreshments between the sessions. The timetable is included at the bottom of this letter.

We have decided to run this event as Easter is very late this year and after the students return to school after the break there are only 14 school days until the examinations begin in earnest. Therefore, we hope these concentrated revision sessions will give students a much-needed boost to their revision and subsequent chances in the final examinations. Research has proven that one of the most effective final revision techniques is the practice of examination style questions and the revision sessions will therefore have a focus around question technique and practice.

# **Preparation for Examinations**

Wednesday 25th May will signal the end of timetabled lessons for Year 11 students. Until this point students are expected to attend school around their exam timetable and follow the usual timetable. We will be factoring in additional revision to support students which will be clearly shared and explained once we return from Easter.

The first formal written exam is on Monday 16 May. You should have already received the examination timetable for the May/June exam series. Students will receive another copy of this, with their seating included, nearer to their first exam and there will be a final exams briefing w/c 9 May. Any queries about the timetables, please contact Hannah Reilly (Examinations Officer) by email at <u>h.reilly@maidenerleghtrust.org</u>

The full JCQ examination protocols can be revisited on our website, <u>JCQ Information for</u> <u>Candidates</u>

#### 'Study Leave'

Study leave commences from Thursday 26 May. While students are on study leave, they need only attend school for their examinations. If they wish to utilise school around their exams they must be in the supervised study rooms and not wandering around the school site. When students are in school, but not in an exam, they must sign in and out at pupil services and follow the regular expectations of the school particularly with respect to uniform & mobile phone use. During study leave, subjects will put revision sessions before their papers and the timing of these will be communicated to the students closer to the time.

Finally, a reminder that GCSE results day this year is August 25th. Information will be shared in early May with details for this day.

Yours faithfully

Gue Polo

Emma Bliss Deputy Headteacher

Session	Tuesday 19	Wednesday 20	Thursday 21	Friday 22
SLT	A.Hartley	A.Hartley	J.Hills/ E.Bliss	E.Bliss
<b>1</b> (09.30am- 11.00am)	English Literature Mrs Hussain Miss Jackson Mrs Grewal	History Miss Shepherd A.Hartley	Drama Mr Harte	<b>Maths</b> Mrs Chopra Mrs Gopal
<b>2</b> (11.15am- 12.45pm)	French Miss Biddiss	<b>Science</b> Mrs Hardman Miss Kirby	<b>Geography</b> Mr Yarwood J.Hills	English Language Mrs Hussain Miss Jackson Mrs Grewal
<b>3</b> (1.00pm- 2.30pm)			Triple Science Mrs Hardman	