

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. I have been so impressed with the level of engagement and work submission from the year 10 students. I want to thank you for your ongoing efforts in supporting your children to be able to access their remote learning activities.

On Monday 1st February, I launched a revision initiative providing suitable resources and activities to help prepare year 10 for their mock examinations, which will be one of our priorities when schools reopen. The mock examinations are a real milestone on the GCSE journey, helping to prepare students for their exams in year 11, and supporting us and the students with identifying topics they need to focus on further. Success in these examinations can be very powerful in motivating students to even greater achievement in year 11.

If we were in school, we would be focusing on revision before the mocks, so it is important for students to revise now at home, using the resources and activities provided. In addition, we provide targeted catch up and intervention sessions for students who are finding specific areas of their GCSE courses challenging. I am pleased to inform you that we are continuing to provide, where necessary, targeted intervention and are planning on how we can increase our capacity to provide this level of support remotely.

The current revision initiative will involve all students accessing GCSEPod, one of the platforms we have subscribed to in recent years, which has had a significant impact on the outcomes of our students. Please can I ask you to ensure that your child can successfully log in to GCSEPod and if there are any issues with this to contact the academy for support.

In summary, each week students will be directed to relevant 'pods' (short videos) to provide structure and content for their revision. The pods should be used in conjunction with the 'flashcard' revision method and all students are well-trained in this way of revising; however more guidance can be found on our [website](http://www.cowesec.org). The weekly challenges will also include revision questions and quizzes to help with recall. From experience, this combined method of revising GCSE content is one of the most effective ways of preparing for exams and assessment. There is an expectation that all year 10 students will be revising from this point forward so please can you encourage your child to access the resources they are directed to.

Thank you again for the support and encouragement you are giving your child in what is a very challenging time. I am confident that all of this effort will be worth it.

Take care.

Kind regards,

Adam Brown
Assistant Principal
Head of KS4.