

Educate for life

Dear Parent / Carer,

I have been so impressed with the level of effort and work from the year 11 students. I want to thank you for your ongoing effort to support your children in making such a positive start to their final GCSE year.

Between November 24th and December 9th 2021, we will be holding year 11 mock examinations. In preparation for this, we will continue to provide targeted academic interventions as well as structured revision sessions that will involve both teacher-led activities and supported independent revision. To complement these intervention sessions, every year 11 student will receive a revision booklet this week, which I have attached to this letter. It is designed to provide parents with the information to be able to support their children and establish the best study habits, that can be applied both in the academy and at home. Much of the revision activity will be centred around GCSEPod and Seneca, the online study platforms for which we provide free access to all our Key Stage 4 students. To compliment this and to provide the specific content, we advise purchasing revision guides for your child's GCSE courses. I know that most families have now had the opportunity to purchase revision guides, however, if you would like more information on the recommended revision guides please contact Mrs Jo Rudd, Head of Year 11 jrudd@cowesec.org.

Year 11 students have begun work on careers education and I am delighted to inform you that we have arranged for their one to one careers interview and the virtual 6th form open evening to take place this term, which will help provide focus and motivation towards your child's next steps. Our website contains useful links and resources under the 'for students' section. This includes videos on exam preparation and study skills, containing the CEC revision steps, to help memorise important content for exams. As a reminder, these steps are:

Step 1- Highlight the key points on the revision guide **OR** Watch the podcast in full first on GCSEPod

Step 2- Make a flash card/bullet point list/mind map **OR** Watch podcast again, this time pausing to write down key information onto flashcards.

Step 3- Copy out flash card/bullet point list/mind map over and over- x10

Step 4- Test yourself- verbally or in writing- (if you cannot remember, go back to step 3 and repeat)

Step 5- Practice exam question in timed conditions with no notes.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact Head of Year Jo Rudd on 01983 203103 or by email jrudd@cowesec.org.

Kind regards,



Adam Brown
Head of Key Stage 4