

Culture Of Excellence - Responsibility – Excellence – Aspiration – Commitment - Teamwork

Dear Year, 11 Parent/Carer,

Re: Countdown to examinations and Examination Checklists

I would like to begin by thanking you for the support you have given our Year 11 students and the school throughout this academic year and particularly during their final set of mock examinations. We have brought forward the date that Year 11 will receive the results of their mock exams to Friday 24th March. This is to ensure that students, parents and carers can be fully informed about the importance of the Easter revision sessions.

Easter revision timetable can be found enclosed within this folder.

Parents Evening

Parents Evening will take place on **Thursday 27th April between 4.00 pm and 6.30 pm**. A letter has been sent out with further details of how to book your place. This will be the final parents evening for your child whilst at SCA. It is also the most important, it is vital we see every single parent and carer so we can talk through how students have performed in the mock exams and what they need to do in the run up to the summer series.

Exam Checklists

To further support Year 11 to prepare for their upcoming GCSE's we have provided each student with a personalised pack of exam checklists for each of their outstanding written exams. Each subject has listed all the knowledge and skills, further broken down into topic area for each exam.

Students have been trained in how to use these checklists to prepare for each examination. They are designed to be used alongside revision guides and in some area's online resources. If you have any questions about the materials, please feel free to contact myself or Mr Lynch.

Links to each checklist can also be found online. [Salford City Academy > Students > Exam Information \(salfordcity-academy.org\)](https://www.salfordcity-academy.org/Students/Exam-Information)





The checklists provide a focus for student revision and students should feel comforted that they can prepare effectively for their upcoming exams knowing where to focus their revision.

The summer exam season will begin in earnest on **Monday 15th May** and this will be an intense, but exciting time for both students and staff so your continued support will be very much appreciated.

[Final 2023 Exam Summer Series Dates.pdf \(salfordcity-academy.org\)](https://www.salfordcity-academy.org/Students/Exam-Information)

How can I support my child through their GCSE examinations?

- Attend Parents Evening on the 27th of April: here we can talk you through how each student needs to prepare and revise for each subject.
- Ensure that you have a copy of exam timetable somewhere visible in your house. Personally, I would be placing this document on the fridge or somewhere that is a central point in the household. In this way, everyone knows which examinations are coming up and the manner in which your child's study across the week needs to be distributed.
- Please encourage your child to attend as many 'breakfasts' and 'after school' revision sessions as they can, as these will supplement the independent revision your child is undertaking, to

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allow them to be fully prepared for each examination they sit. **Remember that breakfast revision for each exam will start at 7.30 am. Students last year who attended every morning revision session on average improve their grade by one grade more than those who missed these sessions.**

- Checking your child is getting a good night's sleep before their examinations, eating a healthy and substantial breakfast on the day of their exam, and that their routine remains regular are crucial throughout this exam period.
- Check that your child is actively working. We know that many students are very good at reading through revision notes, but research has proven this to be an ineffective revision method. Students should be writing notes, creating mind maps, answering questions. You can help by taking them snacks and drinks as they work and providing a quiet space to work.
- Your child does need to be prioritising their revision, but they will also need to be encouraged to take regular breaks. Self-care is going to be very important throughout this period as the examination season is long and demanding.
- It is absolutely natural for your child to be worried or anxious about their upcoming examinations and results; at school we have encouraged students to try and reframe that narrative so they start to look forward to their examinations and build up their self-belief so any way this can be reinforced at home would be fantastic. Please reinforce at home that 'they can do it!'

It is wonderful to see the range of talent across the year group and I know that the vast majority of our students are working incredibly hard in the preparation for their examinations. Many of our students have already demonstrated some excellent work, either as part of their assessed pieces for coursework in a number of subjects or in their Art portfolios. As the exam season lasts up to six weeks for some of our students, praising their continued efforts will be very important for their confidence and stamina, so please help us to do this by acknowledging the efforts of your as they prepare for and sit these vitally important examinations.



Class of 2022 celebrating their GCSE results. This is only a few months away for our class of 2023.

Again, thank you for all your support in terms of getting our Year 11 students ready for their GCSE's.
Yours sincerely,

Mrs K. Eaton
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