

## Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

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Inspiring Excellence Together

## The final weeks of Year 11

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you of the arrangements for the last few weeks of Year 11. After this week of exams there are a further 3 weeks of exams after the half-term break. It is critical for their chances of success that students get the best preparation for their exams and this is achieved, in the majority of cases, by being in school working with their subject teachers.

However, as the exam season progresses students will have completed the exams for some of their subjects. This means that they would be attending lessons where they have completed both the course and the exam. Some of this time will be used for revising independently for other subjects. Therefore, there is a tipping point in the following weeks, where it is best to move to a model where students study at home or in a designated work area in school, but also come into school for timetabled revision sessions in the subjects where they still have exams to sit.

We have decided that the tipping point will be **Monday 13th June**. This date has been chosen as students sit their final GCSE Maths paper in the morning and no student has an exam that afternoon. Geography and Media Studies students have an exam on Tuesday morning, so will do some specific revision in the middle of the day. At 2pm on that day we will hold the Year 11 Leavers Assembly.

So to clarify, Monday 13th June will be as follows:

- 8:10- 8:40 Maths Pre-exam revision sessions
- 9:00 10:30 All Year 11 students sit GCSE Maths Paper 3
- 10:30 1:00 Year 11 attend their normal lessons and break, except those doing GCSE Geography or Media Studies, who will attend specific revision sessions with their teachers
  1:30 2:00 Lunch
- 2:00 3:00 Year 11 Leavers Assembly and study leave begins

From **Tuesday 14th June**, Year 11 will move to a different timetable, where students only attend school to sit their exams or **for specific revision booster sessions in subjects**, where they still have papers to sit. The timetable of these booster sessions for when study leave begins will be given out after half-term. If you or your child feels that they would be able to revise more effectively in a supervised independent learning area in school rather than at home, then please let us know. Our strong recommendation is that students should attend all the booster sessions to give themselves the best chance of success in their remaining exams. For both the exams and revision booster sessions students must attend school in full uniform.

There are around 220 students in Year 11 and the majority are currently acting maturely as they work through their last few weeks. There are a small number of students that are not getting it right by either being, at times, disruptive in some of their classes or immature at break and lunchtime. We will be speaking to the parents of these students this week and putting in alternative arrangements for their provision after half-term.



The Year 11 Leavers Assembly will be an opportunity to celebrate a five year journey, with some incredible challenges along the way. The assembly is always emotional as students reflect on what has been and what is to come. In previous years, we have had a few students who show that they don't have the maturity to attend the Year 11 Leavers Assembly. Please speak to your son/daughter about this as if we feel that they will not be able to act maturely they will be sent home rather than spoil it for others. Any student not getting it right, will also not be trusted to attend the Y11 Prom and refunds will be given if required.

The last exam for Year 11 is the Physics exam on the morning of Thursday 23rd June, finishing at 10:15am for the Combined Scientists and the Separate Scientists at 10:45am. This will be Year 11's last official day at Montgomery and again we expect students to be mature as they leave the premises, return home and start their long well-deserved summer break. There will be strong consequences for any that get it wrong.

I want to finish discussing positives, as there are many with our Year 11 students. In each of the last three weeks over 200 students in the year group have had zero consequence points, as well as gaining ambition points for positive focus on their studies. Despite being the first year group in 3 years to sit external exams, attendance to the exams themselves has been excellent. Several students we were concerned about in regard to heightened levels of anxiety this year have risen to the challenge and conquered their fears. Attendance to the pre-exam revision sessions starting at 8:10am has also been positive.

The message to the overwhelming majority of Year 11 is to keep doing what you are doing, keep focused, calm and positive. The majority are a credit to themselves, the school and their parents/carers and we will continue to support them as best we can over the remaining weeks. By the end of this week we will be two weeks down and three to go.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Careless Headteacher

