

Dear Parent/Carer

Clarification regarding attendance for Year 11 students during the examination season

This year's GCSE programme begins in earnest on **Monday 15th May** and runs until **Monday 26th June**. During this period different groups of Year 11 pupils will be involved in examinations on different days; it is therefore absolutely vital that each student has, and retains, a copy of their own individual examination schedule. I would recommend that students take a picture of their examinations timetable and save this on their phone. Please note that it is the responsibility of each student to present themselves for the right examination at the right time and know their seat number, which may change from one examination to the next. These will be displayed in the PE Foyer before each examination. It is also important that your child has the correct equipment with them for each examination – the equipment needed for each examination will have been explained by your child's subject teachers.

I would like to remind students of the '**Important information for KS4 candidates**' booklet which was issued to all students last term – this information is also available on the school website in the exams section. **Due to the rise in popularity of smart watches it has been decided that all watches will be prohibited from the examinations venues at Helsby High School.**

Research has shown that students who have a balanced breakfast and are hydrated before their exams, perform better in examination conditions. As the exam hall is sometimes hot, we would recommend students bring a bottle of water with them – with the label removed.

I am pleased that the vast majority of students I have spoken to have been revising and attending extra-curricular sessions, for the past few months. As I am sure you are aware, the next few weeks are crucial for your child. Staff at Helsby High School are working extremely hard to ensure your child is as prepared as they can be for the examinations in their subject, along with providing general support and guidance to do with examinations.

As this can be a stressful time for some, I would like to refer you to some websites with guidance on how to help eliminate some of the worry and anxiety exams can cause. Of course, your child can still speak to any member of staff in school, if they are having any issues in the run up to, and during the examination period.

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/pages/coping-with-exam-stress.aspx>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/school-college-and-work/school-college/exam-stress/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/your-stories/14-ways-to-beat-exam-stress/#.WQmwV9IrlCs>

During the examination period we expect all students to be present in school, when they are not participating in an examination. With this in mind, and taking into account parental feedback from previous years, we have created a formal school revision timetable so that your child is as prepared as possible for their exams. The timetable is attached to this letter and informs you and your child of the times of the revision sessions.

Monday 5th June will be the last day that we expect students to be in school, for the full day. After this date your child will be able to attend only for exams and the compulsory revision sessions. If they do not have an exam or revision session, they will not be expected in school.

The revision sessions will be held in a variety of locations in school and will be further clarified to students and parents in school on the Year 11 Noticeboard, via the school website, ShowMyHomework and through social media. **In order to receive their Prom ticket, your child will be expected to attend the revision sessions.**

Afternoon GCSE examinations will begin at 1pm to reduce the number of examinations that finish after the school buses have left at the end of the day. Students will need to be outside the garage/examination venue by 12.50pm, if they have an afternoon examination. There will still be some examinations that finish after the end of the school day so students and parents will need to check examination timetables carefully to ascertain whether alternative transport arrangements will need to be made on certain days.

From Monday 15th May the school day will change for the whole school population; lunch will move from 1.20pm to 12.20pm and end at 1.00pm, when the warning bell will ring. Lesson 4 will start at 1.05pm until 2.05pm and Lesson 5 will remain as normal. Year 11 will be served first in the canteen, if they have their Prom Passport with them, from 12.20pm to 12.30pm to ensure they have eaten in plenty of time for an afternoon exam. All other students will wait until 12.30pm before they are served. It is important your child arrives in the dining room at the start of lunch, as they will need to be at the garage/examinations hall for 12.50pm to place their personal belongings in, if they have an afternoon examination. If they do not have an afternoon examination they will be expected to be in lessons or a revision session.

Subject teachers will be present in all timetabled Year 11 lessons and if students have already sat the examination for that subject, teachers will allow your child to revise for other subjects under their supervision. For safeguarding reasons, the school continues to have a responsibility for your child and we thank you for your support in ensuring they attend lessons when not in exams.

After Monday 5th June, timetabled Year 11 lessons will not have staff present, unless it is a formal revision session. If your child would like to come into school to revise, they will be able to use the Break Out Space, Library or Canteen – they must also sign in and out at Student Services.

I hope you understand the reasons for this letter and are able to continue to provide support for the school at this crucial time. If you have any further questions please contact the Year Leader for Year 11, Mrs Marvin, at school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the past five years and hope your child achieves to their full potential during the examination season. As a school we are very much looking forward to celebrate the end of Year 11 at the Prom on Thursday 29th June at The Doubletree Hotel in Hoole.

Yours sincerely



Mr J A Cooney
Assistant Headteacher (Key Stage 4 Leader)

Helsby High School Year 11 Exams and Revision Timetable 2017

Date	Start	Period	Len	Component Title
Mon 15 May	09:00		01:30	Rel/Life/Christ/Other/Rel
	09:00		01:00	The UK Travel and Tourism Sector
	11.20			FRENCH REVISION
	13.05			ICT REVISION
	14.05			H&S / CONSTRUCTION REVISION
Tue 16 May	09:00		00:35	French Unit 1 Listening-Foundation
	09:00		00:45	French Unit 1 Listening-Higher
	09:00		00:35	French Unit 3 Reading-Foundation
	09:00		00:45	French Unit 3 Reading-Higher
	11.20			BIOLOGY REVISION
	13:00		01:00	Influences on Life [F]
	13:00		01:00	Influences on Life [H]
Wed 17 May	14.05			CHEMISTRY REVISION
	09:00		01:30	Living in A Digital World
	09:00		01:00	Human Lifespan Development
	09:00		01:00	Construction Technology
	11.20			RE REVISION
Thu 18 May	13:00		01:30	Rel/Society
	09:00		01:00	Chemistry in Our World [F]
	09:00		01:00	Chemistry in Our World [H]
	11.20			ENGLISH LIT REVISION
Fri 19 May	13:05			ENGLISH LIT REVISION
	11.20			PE REVISION
	13:00		01:30	Theory of Physical ED.
	13:00		01:00	Theory of Physical ED.
Mon 22 May	09:00		01:45	English Literature Paper 1
	11.20			GEOGRAPHY REVISION
	13:00		01:30	Geography A Unit 1 Tier F
	13:00		01:30	Geography A Unit 1 Tier H
	15.10			DT REVISION
Tue 23 May	09:00		02:00	D & T: Systems & Control Tech Unit 1
	11.20			ENGLISH LANGUAGE REVISION
	13:05			ENGLISH LANGUAGE REVISION
	14:05			BUSINESS STUDIES REVISION
Wed 24 May	09:00		00:45	Intro.to Small Business
	10.00			PHYSICS REVISION
	13:00		01:00	Universal Physics [F]
	13:00		01:00	Universal Physics [H]
	14.05			MATHS REVISION
Thu 25 May	09:00		01:30	Non Calculator [F]
	09:00		01:30	Non Calculator [H]
	09:00		01:45	Non Calculator [H]
	13.05			ENGLISH LIT REVISION
	14.05			ENGLISH LIT REVISION
Fri 26 May	09:00		02:15	English Literature Paper 2
	13.05			HISTORY REVISION
	14.05			MEDIA REVISION
Mon 05 Jun	09:00		01:45	History A Unit 1 Option A
	11.20			FOOD REVISION
	13:00		02:00	D & T: Food Technology Unit 1
	13:00		02:15	Media Studies Unit 1 Written Paper
Formal lessons end from this date. Students need only attend school if they have a revision session or an examination.				
Tue 06 Jun	09:00		01:45	English Language Paper 1
	09:00		01:00	English / Engl Unit 1 Higher
	09:00		01:00	English / Engl Unit 2 Higher
	11.20			GEOGRAPHY REVISION
	13:00		01:30	Geography A Unit 2 Tier F
	13:00		01:30	Geography A Unit 2 Tier H
	15.10			COMPUTER SCIENCE REVISION
Wed 07 Jun	15.10			GERMAN REVISION
	09:00		01:30	Computer Science Written Paper
	09:00		00:35	German Unit 1 Listening-Foundation
	09:00		00:45	German Unit 1 Listening-Higher
	09:00		00:35	German Unit 3 Reading-Foundation
Thu 08 Jun	09:00		00:45	German Unit 3 Reading-Higher
	13.05			MATHS REVISION
	09:00		01:30	Calculator [F]
	09:00		01:30	Calculator [H]
	09:00		01:45	Calculator [H]
	11.20			BIOLOGY REVISION
	09:00		01:00	Components of Life [F]
Fri 09 Jun	09:00		01:00	Components of Life [H]
	10.10			MUSIC REVISION
	11.20			BUSINESS STUDIES REVISION
	13:00		01:00	Music Unit 1
	13:00		01:30	Building A Business
	13.05			ENGLISH LANG REVISION
	14.05			ENGLISH LANG REVISION
Mon 12 Jun	15.10			ENGLISH LANG REVISION (Music/Business Students)
	09:00		01:45	English Language Paper 2
	11.20			H & S REVISION
	13:00		01:00	H & SC: Ustd Prsnl Dvlp & Ritns Wrtn
	14.10			MATHS REVISION
Tue 13 Jun	09:00		01:30	Calculator [F]
	09:00		01:30	Calculator [H]
	11.20			CHEMISTRY REVISION
	09:00		01:00	Discovering Chemistry [F]
Wed 14 Jun	09:00		01:00	Discovering Chemistry [H]
	10.10			PHYSICS REVISION
	11.20			HISTORY REVISION
	13:00		01:45	History A Unit 2 Option D
	09:00		01:00	Phys.for Your Future [F]
Fri 16 Jun	09:00		01:00	Phys.for Your Future [H]
	10.00			BIOLOGY REVISION
	09:00		01:00	Using Biology [H]
Mon 19 Jun	10.00			CHEMISTRY REVISION
Wed 21 Jun	09:00		01:00	Chemistry in Action [H]
Fri 23 Jun	10.00			PHYSICS REVISION
	09:00		01:00	Application of Physics [H]
Mon 26 Jun	10.00			PRODUCT DESIGN REVISION
Mon 26 Jun	09:00		02:00	D & T: Product Design Unit 1