

GARSTANG COMMUNITY ACADEMY

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3rd May 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Just a reminder that your son/daughter will begin study leave at the end of **Thursday 15th June**.

After this date, **normal, timetabled lessons for certain subjects will still run** and I would strongly urge you to ensure that your son/daughter attends them. I have attached a summary timetable from the 15th June which includes details of exams, lessons still running and the format of the Thursday activities. Additionally, if your son/daughter has outstanding coursework, he/she will be required to come in to complete this work to the satisfaction of the teacher concerned. Also, please could you make sure your son/daughter returns any text books to the appropriate teachers. Attendance at the Prom will be dependent on work being completed to our satisfaction.

Any time spent in school should **always be in school uniform**.

External examination results will available be in school on **Thursday 24th August**, from 10.00am until 12.00pm. Further examination information is available on the school website.

Please note that on Thursday 15th June, students will have normal lessons periods 1 and 2. Because there is a GCSE Science exam on Friday 16th June, we are putting on a compulsory Science revision during P3. Any 'last day activities' must be confined to after P3.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your child all the very best for the future, and to thank you for your support over the past 5 years.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Holliday', with a long, sweeping underline.

Tony Holliday
Vice Principal

Y11 'Study Leave' Arrangements 2017

Arrangements from Thursday 15/6/17:

Thursday 15/6	Friday 16/6	Monday 19/6	Tuesday 20/6	Wednesday 21/6	Thursday 22/6	Friday 23/6
Normal Lessons P1+2	Physics P2 exam am – 1hr Period 2 - Science Revision for tomorrow's Biology B3 Exam /Revision for Resistant Materials (Y11 Eng. + Maths teachers to take Science Teacher classes and TW DT class)	Biology B3 exam am – 1hr Period 2 - Science Revision for C3 (Y7 Maths and PE teachers to take Science Teacher classes)		Chemistry C3 exam am – 1hr Period 2 Science Revision for Friday's Physics P3 Exam (Y7 Eng. And Creative Arts teachers to take Science Teacher classes)		Physics P3 exam am – 1hr
Period 3 Science Revision for tomorrow's Physics P2 Exam* (Eng+maths to cover Science Classes)						
Period 4 onwards – see below	Resistant Materials exam pm – 2hrs					

* Arrangements different to 'normal' timetable

Other than students who are timetabled to be in school (see above), the only other students who should be on site are those completing coursework with their teacher. No other students should be on site. If students need to catch school buses and therefore will need to be on site at other times, parents should communicate this to Mr Holliday before-hand so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Arrangements for Thursday 15/6/17

9.00 – 10.00 Period 1
 10.00 – 10.50 Period 2
 10.50 – 11.20 Extended break
 11.20 P.3 Science Revision
 12.20 Extended **lunch provided** in Fairsnape Dining Room
 1.20 Registration with Form Tutors - students register in form rooms
 1.50 Photograph – students taken to front of school by FTs for photo.
 2.05 Hall with Form Tutors, Mr Millatt and Senior Leaders
 3.05 Depart

Simple Tips For Success

- 1. Plan**

Draw up a revision plan.
Divide time for each subject based on the units in the syllabus.
Allow at least 2-3 sessions per night on days when you are in school and at least 3-4 sessions on days when you are not in school.
Break the time into 45 minute revision slots.
Get your notes and revision guides organised.
- 2. Short bursts**

Short bursts of revision (about 40 minutes plus a review 5/10minutes) are most effective. Your concentration will lapse so take a short break (10/15 minutes at least) between sessions.
- 3. Make a space**

Find a quiet place to revise, with a hard surface for writing, where you won't be distracted.
Tell parents, brothers and sisters that you are revising and not to be distracted.
Keep the space tidy and distraction free.
- 4. Avoid distractions**

Don't have any access to social network sites when you are revising – these are very distracting.
Play quiet music if you find it helpful – it can help to block out external noises.
Don't spend all the sessions fiddling with ipods/phones changing the music – stick with an album/playlist.
- 5. Use varying techniques**

Re-write notes, read (out loud?), cover and learn.
Make your own mind maps,
Use post-it notes to write key words on.
Create flash cards/key cards.
Ask friends and family to be available at set times for you to teach them short (10 minute) lessons followed by questions.
Use highlighter pens to mark important points.
Chant or make up a rap.
- 6. Practise**

Do as many past exam papers or revision tests as are available. Initially do one section at a time and progress to doing an entire paper against the clock.
- 7. Get help**

If you are stuck or unsure or just need some extra information/confidence, make sure you get it – from online sites like bitesize, from friends (be careful who!) or come and ask your teacher.
- 8. Don't compare yourself**

Don't ask other people what they've revised, how much they've done – it won't help and (believe it or not) they might not tell you honestly!
Try not to compare answers after exams – you will tend to be negative and focus on what you couldn't do instead of all the good stuff you *could* do.
- 9. Stay positive, stay healthy**

Always try to be positive and up-beat when going into exams – when you walk through the door of the exam room all you can do is your best.
Avoid diuretics (coffee/alcohol) during revision and exam periods – these make you wee and dehydrate you. Keeping hydrated is really important for concentration so drink plenty of water.
- 10. Relax**

Learn some simple relaxation techniques – even just taking deep breaths can help. There's lots of good information on the internet.
Relax between and after revision sessions – go for a long walk and get plenty of fresh air.
Try to relax before exams – walk to school (or at least the last half mile) if you can.