

Dear Parents and Carers,

September 2020

RE: Year 11 Support 2020-21

It has been fantastic to welcome students in year 11 back to school and I hope that your child has made a successful start to the academic year. Lots has changed at the school since March and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as one of the Vice Principals at Wey Valley Academy alongside Mr. Lydford and Mr. Dyer.

Year 11 Success Evening

A key part of my role is ensuring that year 11 students receive the support and guidance that they need throughout the year in order to make the most of their potential. To this end I would like to share details of a **'Year 11 Success Evening', which will be held on Wednesday 14 October 2020 from 6pm – 7pm**. The Success Evening will replace the Year 11 'Parent Consultation Evening' which was due to take place on 08 October 2020; we have had to cancel this event in order to minimise the risk of Covid-19 transmission in school. Dorset County Council have advised that on-site events involving groups of parents should be cancelled until further notice, due to an increase of infections being brought into schools in Dorset by members of the public. The Success Evening will be an online event and will focus on the following areas:

1. Revision strategies and support
2. Intervention and mock exams
3. A look ahead to GCSE exam plans for summer 2021

There have been a significant number of changes to the 2020 GCSE qualifications and these will be covered in the presentations that you see. We want to ensure that all members of the school community know how we are adapting our plans to support students in year 11 this year and what students need to do in order to maximise their chances of success next summer.

An invite to the Success Evening is included below. Please 'RSVP' by clicking the link and confirming your intention to attend. You will then be emailed information about how to access the event.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=CHiIGOEprE6Arbqd4Tc1JcenkcoqutHggmA1dh-UIFUMk8zWVvk3SEE0U0pWNEpHVONXUjU1RURETy4u>

Intervention Timetable

A copy of the academy year 11 intervention timetable is included below. **Sessions will begin on Monday 05 October 2020**. Please note that we have 28 subjects in the Key Stage Four curriculum but there are only five days on which we can hold intervention sessions. If a student is not sure which session to attend, then we can offer advice and guidance to help them.

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk

E office@veyvalley-academy.co.uk

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After-School	English Grade 7 IBU Room 70 PHA Room 71 ECH Room 71 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Science Triple EFO Room 31 LJA Room 31 ACA Room 31 3:20pm - 4:00pm	Maths Higher MYO Room 24 SSA Room 24 JRO Room 24 3:20pm - 4:00pm	French SYO Room 87 3:30pm - 4:00pm	Art and Design JGR Room 42 VWO Room 55 AMO Room 56 3:10pm - 4:00pm
	English Grade 4-5 KCH Room 74 MOS Room 74 MMA Room 75 KCA Room 75 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Science Trilogy PDH Room 38 CRU Room 38 SSH Room 38 MKE Room 38 3:20pm - 4:00pm	Maths Foundation HDY Room 23 PCO Room 23 AGR Room 23 VRI Room 23 3:20pm - 4:00pm	Sports Studies PJA Room 40 3:20pm - 4:00pm	
	Spanish PGO Room 87 3:30pm - 4:30pm	Geography SRI Room 65 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Dance JAS Dance Studio 3:15pm - 4:00pm	Sports Science SHH Room 42 3:20pm - 4:00pm	
	Music MMU Room 1 3:30pm - 4:30pm	Geography SAD Room 63 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Technology VHA Room 44 CNE Room 52 JCL Room 53 3:20pm - 4:00pm	Art and Design JGR Room 42 VWO Room 55 AMO Room 56 3:10pm - 4:00pm	
		German SYO Room 87 3:30pm - 4:00pm			

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Mock Exams

The first set of mock exams this year will take place between Monday 30 November 2020 and Friday 11 December 2020. We strongly recommend that students **begin** revising for these by October half-term in order to give themselves enough time to develop long-term memory of essential exam knowledge. We will release details of mock exam content and how the exams will be structured during the Success Evening.

It is important for all parents and students to note that, if the summer exam season is cancelled or shortened next year, then schools may again be asked to use students' performance in mock exams to make judgements about their GCSE grades. This means that hard work and preparation for the mocks is very important for all students.

Covid-19 Risk Management

I am sure that many students and their families will have questions about the potential impact of Covid-19 on their studies this year. We are running intervention sessions this autumn because we want to give students every chance to succeed this year and we know that these sessions often make a significant difference if students are on the verge of a higher grade. A new cleaning rota will be implemented around the school to ensure that rooms are cleaned before and after use by year 11 students for intervention.

We want students to make the most of every lesson in school and I would like to thank you for your support as we move through the year. I look forward to seeing you all at the year 11 Success Evening.

Yours faithfully,



Thomas Neill
Vice Principal

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