

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of the Spring Term, I would like to thank you for your continued support in helping to ensure that your son/daughter reaches their full academic potential this year. We want our Year 11 students to leave Ruskin with qualifications that will enable them to access a variety of opportunities in the future and, through continuing to work together, I am confident we can achieve this.

The GCSE examinations are fast approaching with **exams commencing less than 3 weeks after the Easter break**. Therefore, during the Easter period, it is vital that students utilise the time to complete effective revision. We understand that the next few weeks will require great perseverance from both students and parents but please do not lose sight of the fact that the time and effort invested over this short period will benefit your son or daughter for the rest of their working life.

Revision

Preparation is the key to success therefore; we would recommend that on average students revise, **at the very least, 4-5 hours per day**. This should be an absolute minimum for students who have not been visibly revising at home. Year 11 have recently had a **'Mock Results Day'** and therefore should have a good idea of the areas in which they need to focus their revision based on these recent results. We know that, for some, revision is a harder task than for others. In order to help students we are providing **every Year 11 student with a revision pack** containing:

- Past paper questions and tasks to help aid their revision.
- A4 pad, post it notes, flash/index cards, highlighter, ruler, pen, pencil and rubber.

We have also provided students with an **Easter Teaching Timetable** and we would encourage all students to access the regular revision sessions taking place with teachers throughout the Easter holidays. These revision sessions will be compulsory for some students however; all students are welcome to attend. All Year 11 students will also be required to attend school on **INSET day, Monday 16 April**, where **essential revision workshops** will be taking place in Maths, Science and Geography. This revision day will be taking place from 10.15am-2.30pm and lunch will be provided for the students free of charge.

Year 11 Student Feedback: Revision Room and 'Screen Time'

Year 11 is a challenging year and we understand the pressures that students currently face. We aim to help and support students as much as we possibly can and their feedback is valuable to us. Therefore, following Year 11 Mentoring Drop Down Day and Year 11 Support Week we have set up a **'Revision Room'** after school **Monday - Thursday**. This room is **open to all Year 11 students** until 6pm, with computers and resources available to access. This has proved very successful following the mock examinations which took place in March and we would encourage any Year 11 student who is struggling to complete effective revision at home to access the Revision Room after Easter.

One of the continued concerns following Drop Down Day and Support Week is the impact of 'screen time' on the productivity of students. A significant number of Year 11 students admit that 'screen time' negatively impacts the amount of revision they can complete at home. The Revision Room has provided an effective solution to this problem for those students who have accessed it. However, please continue to support us in monitoring the 'screen time' of your son or daughter at home. We are asking students to make **short term sacrifices** that will hopefully provide **long term success**.

Ms Webster continues to be available for parent drop-in sessions on Wednesday afternoons. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like any further help or support, for example with subject specific revision sources. I am more than happy to speak with you over the phone or in person.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy and enjoyable Easter.

Yours sincerely



Miss M Birkett
Year 11 Achievement Manager