# The Year Ahead

Preparing for GCSE exams and beyond

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.





#### What's the big picture?

Summer Year 10

- Exams for all subjects over two weeks Full exam conditions (in the hall with invigilators)
- First rotation of intervention in the autumn term based on your performance.

Autumn Year 11

- Mock exams for all subjects over two weeks
- Full exam conditions
- Teachers determine estimated grades for college applications
- Second rotation of intervention in the spring term based on your performance.

Spring Year 11

- Mock exams for all subjects over about three weeks
- Shorter and smaller, mostly within lessons (in classrooms with teachers). The curriculum continues. Primary focus is learning and progress and less about grades. Non-Examination Assessments (NEA) are submitted and marked. Third rotation of intervention in the summer term based on your performance.

Summer Year 11

- External exam series of about 6 weeks.
- Lessons continue until half-term (TBC), overlapping with the start of exams.
- After half-term, most have study leave and attend school only for their exams.
- Some students required to attend school for guided study.

Done! A fantastic summer... results days... the college of your choice... university/further training....



#### A summary of events

Exams and NEA

- Internal exams in summer of year 10, autumn of year 11 and spring of year 11.
- External exams roughly the three weeks before and after the May half-term break.
- Non-Examination Assessments (NEA) in many subjects with deadlines throughout the year.

Intervention

- Specific students require to take part in specific revision activities.
- To support students with progress and preparation for exams or NEA completion. Communicated via Snapshot Reports and Go4Schools markbooks.
- Carefully planned to be focused and manageable.

#### Reports

- Two reports in year 11, in autumn and spring.
- Autumn report communicates an updated estimated grade for college applications.
- The usual bits; attributes, current grade and target grade (MTG). New bits; estimated grades, revision status and revision comment.

Parents' Evening

- Face-to-face Post-16 Information Evening and Parent-Tutor event in early October.
- Online Parent-Teacher evening in January.

Study Skills and Well-being

- Weekly form time sessions leading up to each exam series.
- Study Skills and Well-being Event in January (face-to-face)

Please collect a printed calendar tonight with key dates.

### LVC Year 11 Calendar 2023/24

Month	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Notes	
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	35	1 <sup>st</sup> Sep – Staff Training Day	
	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 36 4 <sup>th</sup> Sep – First day for Year 11		4 <sup>th</sup> Sep – First day for Year 11							
Sep	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	37	Snapshot Report (with Revision Status for autumn intervention)	
2023	<b>2023</b> 18 19 20 21 22 <b>23 24</b> 38									
	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	39	Autumn Intervention (four weeks)	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	40	Post-16 Information Evening + Parent-Tutor Meetings (face-to-face)	
Oct Nov	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	41		
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	42		
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	43		
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	44	Autumn Mock Exams (two weeks)	
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	45		
Nov	13	14	15	16	1 2 3 35 1st Sep – Staff Training Day   8 9 10 36 4th Sep – First day for Year 11   15 16 17 37 Snapshot Report (with Revision Status for autumn interver   22 23 24 38   29 30 1 39   6 7 8 40   7 8 40   13 14 15 41   20 21 22 42   27 28 29 43   3 4 5 44   20 21 22 42   27 28 29 43   3 4 5 44   Autumn Mock Exams (two weeks) MFL Oral Mock Exams   10 11 12 3   14 2 3 48   8 9 10 49   Snapshot Report (with Estimated Grades for college appli   15	MFL Oral Mock Exams				
NUV	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	47		
	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	48		
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	49	Snapshot Report (with Estimated Grades for college applications)	
Dec	11	12	13	14		16	17	50	Post-16 Application Deadline (submitted via MyChoice16)	
Dec	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	51		
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	52		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1		

# The Team around Year 11

### Head of Year – Mr Adam Pelly

Mr Pelly's role is to:

- Oversee all aspects of student progress, behaviour and well-being,
- Lead the year 11 form tutor team
- Communicate and collaborate with all stakeholders in the best interests of year 11 students.

















### Year 11 Form Tutors



### Assistant Principal – Mr Cameron Fehr

My role with year 11 is to:

• Oversee all aspects of exams,

intervention, reporting and assessment

- Line manage the exams officer
- Coordinate intervention with subject leaders

### Exams Officer – Miss Anna Henry

Miss Henry organises all aspects of formal exams, including:

- Exam entries
- Exam timetables
- Invigilators
- Receiving and dispatching official exam papers
- Processing exam results
- Writing and reviewing policies around examinations
- Ensuring we comply with the rules around exams, as set out by JCQ (the Joint Council for Qualifications)
- Moderation of NEA, reviews of marking and special considerations



#### Access Arrangement Assessor – Dr Ollie Marston

Access arrangements are measures put in place to ensure pupils with learning needs are not unfairly treated.

These measures can include:

- 25% extra time
- A reader, scribe and/or prompt
- A word processor



We need two pieces of evidence for students:

- Proof that the access arrangement is their normal way of working.
- Proof that there is a 'need' based on the scores of access arrangement tests.

#### Post 16 Lead – Mrs Nicola Scally

Mrs Scally supports post-16 transition by:

- Promoting open evening/day events,
- Making prospectuses available to students in the Library,
- Delivering the Post-16 Information Evening in the autumn term,
- Coordinating access to MyChoice16,
- Overseeing the post-16 application process,
- Providing careers guidance to students to ensure a smooth transition to the right college and course.



### Post-16 Application Process



- Students should start researching and planning now.
- Applications are submitted through a platform called MyChoice16.

### Timeline:

- Open Days / Evenings *from now through the Autumn term*
- MyChoice16
  - Students introduced to the site and username and passwords provided *September*
  - Personal statements written and submitted October/November
  - Three (3) colleges chosen and submitted by end of November
  - Final application deadline *Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December*
- Post-16 Information evening *Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October*
- Offers from CAP colleges by 31st March

The printed calendar includes these key dates.

## Post 16 Open Evenings / Days

- Cambridge Regional College
  - Several dates from October onwards, including evenings dedicated to apprenticeships
- Hills Road Sixth Form College
  - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 10am 4pm
  - Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 5pm 8pm
- Impington International College
  - October TBC
- Long Road Sixth Form College
  - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 5pm 9pm
- The Oakes
  - October TBC
- Saffron Walden County High School 6th Form
  - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October (timings TBC)
- West Suffolk College
  - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 9:30am 12:30pm
  - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 5:30pm 7:30pm





Some colleges ask you to book tickets for their events. Check their websites before attending.

#### How will we work together to ensure your children succeed?

#### • Interventions

- Staff are putting on lunchtime and after school sessions to complete NEA work and to respond to specific feedback for improvement. It's important that you encourage your children to attend.
- Course Guidance and Revision Materials
  - Mr Fehr will be publishing a KS4 Overview document for parents. This details examination requires for each course, the content cover and suggested resources.
  - Revision guides will be on offer at the start of Year 11. Staff routinely provide students with past papers.
- Communication
  - Mr Fehr and Mr Pelly will be in regular communication with parents. This is usually by e-mail.
  - There will be Parent-Teacher and Parent-Tutor evenings this year, as well as the Post-16 Information Evening and the Study Skills and Well-being Event.
  - Students receive most information via form tutors and assemblies.
  - The Satchel:One noticeboard will also be used to convey messages to students and parents. Be sure to download the app and allow notifications.
  - The Website (Curriculum  $\rightarrow$  Years 10 and 11)
- Removing barriers
  - Mock exams make the routines around exams second nature.
  - Students are also familiarised with exactly what the exams expect from them.
  - The hub team provide mental health support and counselling where appropriate.
  - Students need to do their bit. Show up every day, in uniform, with their equipment.



## Uniform



#### Jewellery

Only a watch (without internet connection), studs in pierced ears (maximum of two in each ear lobe), invisible retainer in nose piercing and one charity wristband (with the name of a charity on it) is permitted.

#### Hair & Make-up

Hair should be natural in colour and no extreme hairstyles are permitted. Only subtle, discreet, natural-looking makeup is acceptable. Please note that false eyelashes, acrylic/shellac nails or coloured nail varnish is not allowed.

Skirts	Trousers	Shorts	Shoes
Skirts must be <b>smart,</b>	Trousers must be <b>smart,</b>	Shorts must be <b>smart,</b>	Shoes must be smart, black and polishable
black, to the knee and	black, tailored and full	black, tailored and just	(please note that canvas or any visible branding
<b>pleated,</b> tights must be	length. Leggings are not	above the knee	is not permitted), socks must be <b>plain black</b>
<u>plain black</u>	appropriate.		and ankle length

	Essential Items	Optional Items		
A pencil case *		Colouring Pencils		
Two pens (blue and black) for written work				
Coloured pen for marking and feedback (e.g. Maths use purple)		Highlighters to improve visibility of key information for revision.		
Two pencils				
Scientific calculator		Additional Items		
Pencil sharpener			*	
Eraser		A pair of compasses **	13	
Ruler (ideally 30cm for Design and Technology)			10	
Glue stick			1	
Pair of scissors		Protractor **		

\* Only a clear pencil case and black pens are permitted in GCSE exams.

\*\* These will be needed but not expected every day, but students should have them. They will be informed when these are needed.