

The Axe Valley Community College & Sixth Form Centre

Chard Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5EA



Friday 18th March 2016

Dear Year 11 Parents / Carers

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Ref: Year 11 Arrangements for final term

As the summer examination series draws nearer we would like to take the opportunity to outline in the letter below how we will support Year 11 students fully at this important time.

Lessons and exam preparation

Timetabled lessons will continue as normal up to half term (w/c Monday 30th May 2016). All students will be expected to continue to attend all lessons well prepared and continue to be punctual. External examinations commence on Monday 16th May 2016. All Year 11 students should have already received their statement of entry and will be issued with a more detailed timetable on our return from Easter. If you have any questions or concerns around the examinations please do not hesitate to contact Sue Higgs our examinations officer by telephone or shiggs@axevalley.devon.sch.uk.

When we return after half term on Monday 6th June 2016 all students are still expected to attend college and on time every day. This fortnight has been carefully constructed to maximise the support available to Year 11 students and contains a large number of external examinations. We would like to highlight some key examinations and intervention support that has been organised for the week prior to half term and the fortnight after – please see below. Please note for detailed information about when all exams are taking place students / parents should refer to their personalised exam timetable.

Week commencing 23.05.16 (timetabled lessons running)

Monday 23.05.16	Geography intensive revision pm
Thursday 26.05.16	Geography intensive revision pm
Friday 27.05.16	History intensive revision pm

Week commencing 06.06.16 (revision timetable running)

Monday 06.06.16	History examination am*
	English Walking Talking Mock all students pm
Tuesday 07.06.16	English PEP talk and English examination am
	Maths intensive revision pm
Wednesday 08.06.16	German examination am*
	Geography examination pm*
Thursday 09.06.16	Maths PEP talk and maths examination am
	Biology intensive revision pm

Friday 10.06.16	Biology examination am Music examination pm Shirt signing pm (see celebrations below)
Monday 13.06.16	Chemistry intensive revision am Catering examination pm Physics intensive revision pm
Tuesday 14.06.16	History intensive revision am* History examination pm*
Wednesday 15.06.16	RE examination am Chemistry intensive revision am Chemistry examination pm
Thursday 16.06.16	Food examination am* Physics intensive revision pm
Friday 17.06.16	Physics examination am Leavers' assembly and Cloakham Lawns pm (see celebration below)

* There will be a structured revision programme for any students not included in the specified examinations or intensive revision session at this time. A detailed programme of what these periods will contain will be published nearer to the time.

Glossary

Walking talking mock: this is a structured walk-through of a past exam paper in the hall. It is designed to strengthen students' exam technique

PEP talk: short, 30min motivational talk, just before the exam

Intensive revision: 2-3 hr revision session with class teacher, recapping key elements of exam.

Year 11 students **only** will be allowed to wear official college polo shirts and the AVCC hoodies from 25th April onwards as part of their exam preparation. Students will be expected to wear normal school trousers, school skirts and school shoes alongside their polo shirts and AVCC hoodies throughout the examination period. Students who do not adhere to this examination uniform code will be asked to wear appropriate spare school uniform and it may call into question their eligibility to attend some of the celebrations if they are not able to comply with the school rules on this matter.

This means that Year 11 students will officially finish on Friday 17th June 2016. There is a physics examination in the morning which all of Year 11 are sitting followed by celebrations in the afternoon (please see below).

We would again like to highlight two valuable revision aids:

1. Subject Revision Guides can be found on the college web site (visit Students / Year 11). These provide a detailed breakdown of topic areas and where revision material can be found.

2. GCSEPOD is a superb revision tool. Students can access high quality pod casts covering their courses. There are 100s to choose from and these supplement other forms of revision such as note making, mind mapping and revision cards. For more information on how to access this resource please visit our college web site (Students / Year 11).

Celebration

Shirt signing

On Friday 10th June in the afternoon we would like to offer the opportunity for Year 11 students to bring in white button down shirts to have signed by their friends and staff. There will be a photographer available and students will be able to spend time signing leavers' books and shirts throughout the afternoon. This should not be their polo shirt which they will be wearing for revision and examinations, but a separate souvenir shirt.

Leavers' Assembly and Cloakham Lawns

On Friday 17th June we would like students to have the opportunity to come to school in smart clothes as we would like to do a leavers' assembly with Year 11 followed by celebrations at Cloakham Lawns. Students will be asked to walk to Cloakham for celebrations between 1-3pm and then they will be able to walk back to school and catch the school bus home afterwards. We have booked Cloakham Lawns between 1pm and 3pm so we can say a few words and hand out a few awards. Parents and carers are welcome to attend this section if they wish. The bar will be open and burgers and sausages will be available from the barbecue. There is no charge for entry but you will need to pay for your food on the afternoon. It would be wonderful to see as many students and parents as possible for this celebration.

The Prom is confirmed for 7th July at The Deer Park Hotel near Honiton. The evening starts at 7pm and finishes at approximately 11pm. We have a whole evening of entertainment lined up and it should be a great way to celebrate the end of exams and the start of summer. Tickets need to be purchased in advance. The cost will be approximately £25 and more information about exact timings and costings as well as how to pay will be communicated soon. Parents are more than welcome to come along to the venue to watch students arrive and take some photographs but we would politely ask that you leave the venue by 7.30pm. Students are expected to make their own way to and from the venue.

Finally GCSE results day is Thursday 25th August. Results are usually given out from 9.30am. If you are away we will post these to you. If you would like your results collected by another person please get in touch with Mrs Higgs and let us know what arrangements you would like to make. If we have not had a message prior to results day, we will not allow results to be taken by anyone else.

Thanks in advance for your support. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me (ljenkins@axevalley.devon.sch.uk) or Mr Scott (jscott@axevalley.devon.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mrs Jenkins (Assistant Head)

Mr Scott (Year 11 Leader)