



Dear Year 11 students and parents/carers

Firstly we like to take this opportunity to thank Year 11 students and their parents for their ongoing commitment to their examinations and their support of Axe Valley Academy. It is evident that this year group is dedicated to their examinations and working with a focus on their academic achievement. The exemplary behaviour and attitude displayed every day has put the current Year 11s in the position of potentially achieving the most impressive results at AVA to date. It is a pleasure to go into lessons and see students striving to achieve the very best that they can.

With such a hardworking year group, who are showing excellent organisation and motivation toward their revision, we wanted to take the opportunity to write to you outlining the support strategies we are putting in place for Year 11 in the countdown to the GCSE public examinations in May.

The following letter is a comprehensive summary of the different timetabling expectations, examination expectations, interventions and reward events calendared between now and June 2019. We will resend this letter via Parentmail in April as a reminder, however if you have any questions or concerns in the meantime don't hesitate to contact us via email on esloman@axevalley.devon.sch.uk or ljenkins@axevalley.devon.sch.uk.

The letter covers the following areas:

1. Countdown Plans
2. Crash Program and Pep Talks
3. Study Leave
4. Uniform
5. Leavers' Day
6. Prom
7. Presentation Evening

It continues to be a pleasure working with Year 11 and we look forward to supporting this year group to a series of examination results that leave behind the legacy of an exceptional year group.

Laura Jenkins
Deputy Headteacher

Emily Sloman
Year 11 Year Leader

Chard Street,
Axminster, Devon
EX13 5EA

Tel: 01297 32146

Email
[admin@axevalley.
devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@axevalley.devon.sch.uk)

Web
[www.axevalley.
devon.sch.uk](http://www.axevalley.
devon.sch.uk)

Executive Headteacher

Martin Brook
B.Ed, MA

Deputy Headteacher

Laura Jenkins
B.Sc Hons

Assistant Headteachers

Kevin Cumming
BA Hons B.Ed
Jonathan Scott
BA Hons

Director of Sixth Form

Dave MacCormick
B.Sc Hons, M.Ed



1. Countdown Plans

Year 11 have been issued with a countdown planning book which holds all of the countdown revision plans for every subject. The full covering letter and countdown book can be found on the school website under the 'Parents' section alongside the examination timetable and revision tips and strategies:

<http://axevalley.devon.sch.uk/parent/year-11-exam-preparation/>

The countdown plans are designed to reduce student anxiety through early preparation and to enable parents to specifically identify areas of revision to support with at home. It is recommended that students revise or complete homework for 2 hours a night during the week and then 6 hours over the weekend. We are currently (week commencing 11.03.19) on **week 14**.

2. Crash Program and Pep Talks

Please find attached to this letter a copy of the crash program and the pep talks. The crash program is designed to give students intensive revision opportunities prior to their GCSE examinations in English, Maths, Science, History, Philosophy & Ethics and Geography. The pep talks are for all subjects and take place immediately before examinations to ensure that students are focused and remind them about exam technique. Attendance at both crash sessions and pep talks is compulsory as we know from previous experience how valuable this preparation is.

Up until Friday 7th June, where students are not in examinations, crash sessions or pep talks, normal lessons will continue.

3. Study leave

The last day students will be expected to attend school for the entire school day between 8:45am and 3:25pm for normal lessons is Friday 7th June. However there are still a number of examinations, crash sessions and pep talks timetabled in the week commencing the 10th June and beyond. Students will be expected to come in for all timetabled sessions and examinations but can be picked up or make their own way home immediately afterwards. If a student is unable to be picked up or make their own way home, independent supervised study rooms will be available on site. Normal school transport will of course operate during the examination period.

From Monday 10th June, students will not be registered in lessons or tutor time, therefore all students will need to sign in and out at the student office so that we are aware of exactly who is on site. Students are responsible for studying independently when they are not in school until their last examination has been completed.

4. Uniform

Year 11 students will be expected to attend school in their regular school uniform until Friday 14th June. Where examinations, crash sessions or pep talks take place after this date, students are also expected to attend in uniform. They will be permitted to wear their leavers' hoodie as part of their uniform in place of their blazer. Year 11 students will be permitted to wear summer polo shirts after the half term break in line with the rest of the school.

5. Leavers' Day

Leavers' Day is to take place on Friday 14th June. All students have a Science examination in the morning. After this examination has finished, there will be an opportunity for them to sign each other's shirts if they so wish. As students will probably be wearing uniform with polo shirts by this point, they may wish to bring in an old more formal school shirt for signing. There will then be a final celebration assembly on the school site before we head down to Cloakham Lawns for a celebration event including a barbecue and rounders. Parents are also welcome to join us at Cloakham Lawns between 1:30pm – 3:00pm. The dress code for students on this day will be smart casual and students will need to change at school after the shirt signing and before the final assembly. Appropriate changing areas will be provided.

We would welcome students donated any unwanted uniform back to AVA. They can leave this at reception at any point.

6. Prom

Our prom will take place on Thursday 27th June at Hornsbury Mill in Chard. Students can arrive from 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start. The gateway will be open for you to pay from April. The prom is a more formal event and therefore students will wish to dress appropriately. The event ends at 11:00pm and therefore students will need to be collected at this time.

7. Presentation Evening

Presentation Evening this year will be on Thursday 26th September from 6:30pm at The Guildhall in Axminster. We would like students and parents to put this into their calendar early as we would like to reunite as many of the year group as possible to celebrate all of their academic, sporting and musical achievements. The dress code for this will be smart and all parents are encouraged to attend. A formal invite will be sent out at the very beginning of September to all past Y11 students and their parents. The evening will comprise welcome reception drinks, a formal speech from the Chair of Governors and Headteacher as well as awards led by all staff. There will also be a photography space where we will be taking individual and group photos alongside parents and other family members.

Crash and pep talk programme May / June 2019

	Monday	Tuesday*	Wednesday*	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday*	Thursday*	Friday	HALF TERM
	13.05	14.05	15.05	16.05	17.05	20.05	21.05	22.05	23.05	24.05	
08:50-09:10 Pep talks	Computer Science	French		Chemistry	French	Philosophy & Ethics	Maths		English Literature	Psychology	
Lesson 1	Computer science	French	Chemistry crash	Chemistry	French	Philosophy & Ethics	Maths	English Literature crash	English Literature	Psychology	
Lesson 2	Biology crash	English Literature crash									
Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	
Lesson 3	Biology crash	English Literature crash		R band Philosophy & Ethics crash (conference)	S band Philosophy & Ethics crash (conference)	Maths crash	Physics crash		History crash	English Language crash	
Lesson 4		lunch	lunch								
12:30-12:50 Pep talks	Philosophy & Ethics	Biology	English Literature	Computer Science	Drama		Geography	Physics	History crash	DT	
Lunch	Philosophy & Ethics	Biology	English Literature	Computer science	Drama	lunch	Geography	Physics		DT	
Tutor						Geography crash					
Lesson 5											

Pep Talks

Examinations

Crash

*3:2 lesson split days

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday *	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	3.06	4.06	5.06	6.06	7.06	10.06	11.06	12.06	13.06	14.06
08:50-09:10 Pep talks	History	English Language PEP		Maths PEP	English Language PEP	Food PEP	Maths PEP	Chemistry PEP	Geography PEP	Physics PEP
Lesson 1	History	English Language	Maths crash	Maths	English Language	Food	Maths	Chemistry	Geography	Physics
Lesson 2						Maths crash 1&2				
Break	break	break	break	break	break	break	break	break	break	break
Lesson 3	Geography crash	History crash		English Language crash			Chemistry crash	Geography crash	Physics crash	Leavers and Cloakham
Lesson 4			German crash		lunch					
12:30-12:50 Pep talks	Psychology PEP	Music PEP	Geography PEP	History PEP	Biology PEP	Health & Social Care PEP		German PEP		
Lunch	psychology	music	geog	history	biology	Health & Social Care		German		
Tutor		Biology crash								
Lesson 5										

Pep Talks

Examinations

Crash

*3:2 lesson split days