



18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly I would like to take the opportunity to say how impressive Year 11 have been throughout their final exam series. They have continued with their dedication as a year group towards achieving the best grades that they can and it has been a delight to see them not only working so hard in lessons but committing to period 6 and showing immaculate behaviour during their examinations.

We would like to confirm that the final day on site for Year 11 is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Students will arrive at school in smart-casual dress at 8.45am. Firstly, they will have the opportunity to spend time with their tutors, peers and to sign shirts. A final assembly will then take place followed by garden games, ice cream and a barbecue on the school field. Students will then leave site from 12.30pm, they can be collected from the Flamingo Pool car park.

The Prom will take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July at Hornsbury Mill on the outskirts of Chard. Tickets are available to purchase on the Gateway. Students can arrive from 7pm for a 7.30pm start and will need to be collected by 11pm. We cannot wait to celebrate Year 11's time at Axe Valley Academy with them.

We feel that it is important that we provide opportunities for continued education and preparation for post 16 after half term and this letter will outline all of the different materials and opportunities for Year 11 to engage in across the coming months. We have had a number of Y11 students who have put in requests to volunteer in school and 'give back' to the community and we hope to see many of them back supporting the younger year groups across the Summer term.

### **Suggested Reading**

Reading is vital and we cannot emphasise enough just how important reading is for everyone. Reading is important because it develops our thoughts, gives us endless knowledge and lessons while keeping our minds active. We have compiled a list of suggested reads for across the Summer term and beyond which we have listed below. We'd also like to remind you of the opportunity to loan books from the library across the term. Students can search for and request books via the school library website. Books can be collected from and returned to the school reception area. Please ensure any borrowed books are returned before 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

The school library catalogue can be accessed here: <https://axevalley.slls.online/>  
A user guide can be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/4z4w37eh>

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)



## Year 11 Recommended Reads

English Literature or Language	<p>Your A-level provider most likely will have a list of recommended reads; you should look at that first. These are some suggestions that will always be good calls!</p> <p><i>Jane Eyre</i> – Charlotte Bronte  <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> – Jane Austen  <i>Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit</i> – Jeanette Winterson  <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> - Margaret Atwood  <i>Things Fall Apart</i> – Chinua Achebe  <i>The Road to Wigan Pier</i> – George Orwell  <i>Love in the Time of Cholera</i> – Gabriel Garcia Marquez            Subscribe to a literary journal, such as Granta or The New Yorker  <i>The Allusionist</i> podcast with Helen Zaltzman</p>
Mathematics	<p><i>Maths on the Back of An Envelope</i> - Rob Eastaway  <i>Fermat's Last Theorem</i> – Simon Singh</p>
Sciences	<p><i>I Contain Multitudes</i> – Ed Yong  <i>The Disappearing Spoon</i> – Sam Kean  <i>What If?</i> - Randall Munroe  <i>The Big Bang</i> – Simon Singh  <i>A Little History of Science</i> – William Bynum</p>
Humanities	<p><i>Sapiens</i> – Noah Yuval Harari  <i>The World's War: Forgotten Soldiers of Empire</i> - David Olusoga  <i>Factfulness</i> – Hans Rosling  <i>Prisoners of Geography</i> – Tim Marshall  <i>Think</i> – Simon Blackburn  <i>Economics: The User's Guide</i> – Ha-Joon Chang</p>
Creative Arts	<p><i>Balancing Act : Behind The Scenes At The National Theatre</i> – Nicholas Hytner  <i>Every Song Every</i> – Ben Ratliff  <i>The Art Book</i> – Phaidon</p>
Sport	<p><i>Legacy</i> – James Kerr  <i>Unbelievable: From My Childhood Dreams to Winning Olympic Gold</i> - Jessica Ennis-Hill  <i>Bounce</i> – Matthew Syed  <i>Touching the Void</i> – Joe Simpson</p>
Design, Technology, Engineering	<p><i>The Language of Things</i> – Deyan Sudjac  <i>Design as Art</i> – Bruno Munari  <i>Engineering: a very short introduction</i> – David Blockley</p>
Languages	<p>Get hold of some children's books in translation!            Watch music videos and TV shows in the language you are studying</p>

You can also ask your subject teachers, of course, about their top tips.

### Curriculum gaps - catch up

Due to the pandemic there were topics that were not covered in full across a range of subjects. We'd recommend that students use the time at home to further their studies. They can complete the catch up work set for them on ClassCharts if they haven't already done so. This has been set by all subjects. They could alternatively access the curriculum

map on the website and complete areas of study listed under Term 2 for every subject they are interested in further. <https://axevalley.devon.sch.uk/curriculum/year-11/>

Please don't forget they can continue to take advantage of access to our online platforms such as Hegarty Maths, Seneca, Kerboodle and Memrise to revise, further their knowledge and understanding and keep their minds active.

### **Preparation for A level work**

For those students who are concentrating on preparation for A level we have set up a Google Classroom which contains preparation for A level work. There are hyperlinked resources for the following areas of study:

- Business
- Computer Science
- Creative and Performing Arts
- Engineering
- English
- Humanities
- IT
- Maths
- Media
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Sport

We would encourage all students progressing on to A level to follow the link to join the Google Classroom. Students will need to log into their school email and click on the email link to join the Google Classroom where the work on the preparatory materials available to them will be. There are a whole range of interesting projects, talks, videos and materials and tasks that can support further study.

### **Early transition opportunities with Post 16 providers**

Due to the pandemic there has been a change to the way transition happens with many Post 16 providers and early transition and support is offered in many cases. To find out more about the transition offer to your child's Post 16 provider we have compiled a list of contacts and information that you may find useful. Please do make sure that you contact the provider and see what your child is eligible to participate in.

<b>Post 16 provider</b>	<b>Contact details</b>	<b>Additional information</b>
<b>Sidmouth College</b>	Mrs S Hurley <a href="mailto:shurley@sidmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk">shurley@sidmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk</a> Phone: 01395 514 823	
<b>Colyton Grammar</b>	Ann Orchard (6th Form administrator) <a href="mailto:aorchard@colytongrammar.com">aorchard@colytongrammar.com</a> Phone: 01297 552327	

<b>Bicton College</b>	Sandra Everett <a href="mailto:sandra.everett@bicton.ac.uk">sandra.everett@bicton.ac.uk</a> Phone: 01395 562201 (Bicton reception)	<p>Regarding transition of students the college should be having a Taster Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> June where students come to the college and experience a day in the life of a student on their chosen course however, we are not certain that this will be going ahead due to the safety of both staff and visitors in this current time. If you register on <a href="https://www.bicton.ac.uk/events/taster-day-at-bicton-college-june-2021/">https://www.bicton.ac.uk/events/taster-day-at-bicton-college-june-2021/</a> you will be contacted with any updates or further information.</p> <p>In the event that this doesn't go ahead, Sandra is more than happy to show you and your child around the college and answer any questions. She can set up a Teams meeting or even meet you at school if it would help.</p>
<b>Exeter College</b>	Admissions Team <a href="mailto:info@exe-coll.ac.uk">info@exe-coll.ac.uk</a> Phone: 01392 400444	The college will be sending transition work to individual students on the 14th of June via the e-mail address. This is part of their Flying Start program. Work will then be supplied based on the subject(s) students have opted to take.
<b>The Woodroffe School</b>	Elizabeth Marmion (admin) or Head of 6th form - Adel Keaney (for <i>existing</i> applications) <a href="mailto:6formadmin@woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk">6formadmin@woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk</a> Phone: 01297 442232	Conditional offers will be made in the week after half term. In these offers will be links to transition work for students to complete in preparation for September. Once results are received in August, students will need to contact Woodroffe to organise their registration day.
<b>Yeovil College</b>	Steve Battersby <a href="mailto:steve.battersby@yeovil.ac.uk">steve.battersby@yeovil.ac.uk</a> Phone: 01935 845512 (Yeovil switchboard)	The college will be inviting all new students to an onsite transition day and will contact students individually. All students can also access the student experience month via the website. This will be live from Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May. The activities available are 360 virtual tours, resources, videos, take away tasks and taster sessions.
<b>Richard Huish College</b>	Charlotte Sargeant <a href="mailto:admissions2@richhuish.ac.uk">admissions2@richhuish.ac.uk</a> Phone: 01823 320800	
<b>Kingston Maurwood</b>	Student Admin Team <a href="mailto:fulltimecourses@kmc.ac.uk">fulltimecourses@kmc.ac.uk</a> Phone: 01305 215100	Transition days for the college will start from the 28 <sup>th</sup> June. The college will contact individual applicants with information and preparation work that they need to complete for their course.

## **Individual careers meetings and support**

For a small number of students they have recently changed their mind about what they want to do after leaving AVA or haven't yet secured their apprenticeship. We will continue to offer onsite one-to-one careers meetings for anyone who is unsure of where they want to go or what they want to do. If you contact Mrs Ward [eward@axevalley.devon.sch.uk](mailto:eward@axevalley.devon.sch.uk) she will book appointments with our Careers Specialist Mrs Whipp and we will work with your child to ensure their places are secured.

We will also continue to offer apprenticeship workshops where students can book to see Mrs Whipp and discuss apprenticeships, update their cvs, write personal statements and research opportunities to send letters of interest. Again if you are interested in the apprenticeship workshops contact Mrs Ward [eward@axevalley.devon.sch.uk](mailto:eward@axevalley.devon.sch.uk) and she will book the workshops with Mrs Whipp.

We understand that progressing on to the next stage of education can be a worrying time for some students. If you are concerned about your child's transition to their Post 16 provider we will also support by arranging accompanied visit days. You can arrange these by emailing [admin@axevalley.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@axevalley.devon.sch.uk) and expressing your interest and we will get back to you to arrange a visit to the setting.

Some students have expressed interest in returning to school to volunteer in a variety of ways to enhance their skills and experiences. We would be delighted to consider any individual requests and see if there is a work experience opportunity for them at AVA. If you are interested contact Mrs Ford [lford@axevalley.devon.sch.uk](mailto:lford@axevalley.devon.sch.uk) and we can look at a bespoke work experience package for your child in their area of interest.

## **Mentoring**

So many Year 11 students have thrived by having the opportunity for mentoring with a trusted member of staff. If your child would like to continue to see their mentor they can book this directly with their mentor via email. All staff email addresses are listed on the website. We would encourage any child who has really benefitted from this one-to-one support to make contact and arrange a keep in touch meeting.

## **NCS**

The National Citizen Service is a voluntary personal and social development programme for 16–17-year-old young people in England and Northern Ireland. They are offering the 'Keep Doing Good' scheme! This will last for two weeks; the first will be dedicated to planning a project that aims to support their community and the second will be spent delivering their project within their local community.

This has proven really popular with students in the past and is a great addition to their CVs and university application forms. It also provides a fantastic opportunity to meet new young

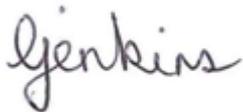
people, interact with people of all ages and encourages young people to step outside of their comfort zone. For more information, please contact Jude Hesmondhalgh - [judehesmondhalgh@bydesign-group.co.uk](mailto:judehesmondhalgh@bydesign-group.co.uk).

If you have any questions at all or would like to discuss supporting your child across the Summer term please don't hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience.

I'd also like to make a request for any uniform and PE uniform donations that you may no longer require. We utilise all of the uniform that is donated to us from shoes to ties and it makes a genuine difference to the lives of so many students. If you do have any uniform or PE uniform you are able to donate please do drop it into reception FAO Mrs Jackson and we will gratefully make good use of it.

Finally I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to our parents. The support you have shown your children and the school across their school career and particularly the last year of unprecedented disruption we are truly grateful for. We have been lucky to have experienced such true community support and on behalf of all the staff at AVA I wanted to say thank you.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Jenkins  
Headteacher