



11th February 2022

Dear Year 13 Students

Our first half term of 2022 has just flown by and you all seem to be back into your studies well after the break. You have so much coming up over the next few months and you need to make sure you are ready for the challenges.

Following your mocks results in December and further assessments in class you and your teachers will have been able to identify areas you need to work on in your subjects to aid your revision for the upcoming exams. One of the best ways to start your revision is to write a revision timetable. This will allow you to personalise your revision to how you prefer to work whilst also allowing you to focus on each subject equally and give structure to your revising. When it comes to revision, small amounts and regularly is better than revising for hours on end.

There are various revision timetable templates available through the internet and on our website and there are also Apps for your phone such as; Adapt - Revision Timetable or ACCA Student planner. Teachers will be completing their delivery of A level content in all subjects over the coming weeks and starting to focus on revision and will share some tips and techniques with you to ensure you have all the tools you need in preparation for the exams. We have included a timetable template and some revision skills tips for you on the following pages. We have also made an excellent revision strategies workbook which you can find [here](#).

Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 13 Exams Success Evening on 10th February, the information that was delivered by our teachers was very informative and there were lots of tips and advice on how to prepare for exams. For those of you who were unable to attend the evening please find the presentation [here](#).

As you are aware, over the coming half term there will be another opportunity to collect evidence for Teacher Assessed Grades. Use the revision techniques suggested above to help consolidate your knowledge; this will ensure that you are prepared for the assessments.

Advanced information has now been released for the Summer exams by the exam boards. Over the coming weeks your teachers will share with you what this means.

As always we want to support and guide you to achieve the best grades possible to give yourselves great opportunities in your future to succeed. If you have any queries or would like and support or advice please come and see us in the Post 16 Office or email us Post16@brookvalegroby.com

Please find below some important information and reminders for after the half term break for you to read so you are ready to start back with your studies. We hope you all have a good break and look forward to seeing you back with us on Monday 21st February.

Kind Regards

Vicki Varney
Assistant Headteacher - Post 16

Michelle Cheadle
Head of Post 16



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We would like to remind you of some of the rules in Post 16 that you need to adhere to. There is some new information and notices that you will need to read and follow:

Dress Code	Please make sure you are dressed in line with the dress code. Please re-read the dress code to familiarise yourself with it again over the break. Ripped Jeans and Crop tops are NOT part of the dress code and therefore should not be worn. You will be challenged and sent to the Post 16 office or home to change.
Lanyards	You need to be wearing your lanyard at all times whilst on campus. Your ID card is even more important now as it is needed to activate the new gate system. If you have forgotten your lanyard then you must visit the Post 16 office to collect a temporary lanyard for the day. You need to do this as soon as you come into school.
Signing in to Study Rooms	Please make sure you sign in to the study room you are using each study period. This is a safeguarding measure as we need to know where you are on campus at all times. Spot checks will be undertaken and sanctions issued.
Study Rooms	<p>All of our Post 16 Rooms are study rooms during lesson time, therefore you will be expected to be studying. The rooms are slightly different so you have a choice of the style of studying you wish to do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Silent Study Area - SILENT studying• Post 16 Study Area G43 - Quiet Study and Computers• Common Room - Group Study• P16 Dining Room - Group Study• Library - Silent Study <p>These rooms will be monitored and sanctions issued should students not be using the rooms appropriately.</p>
School Day	The school day begins with tutor time at 8.45am so please make sure you arrive in plenty of time for this session to start on time. You may leave campus when you finish your last lesson of the day. You are expected to attend tutor times (unless you have made arrangements with P16) and we expect you to sign out/use your card to exit the campus so we have a log of where you are, this is a safeguarding measure.. Spot checks will be undertaken and sanctions issued if procedures are not followed correctly.
School Gate	When arriving and leaving the campus, even when the gate is open, you need to swipe your card at the gate until the light turns green. If you are in a group everyone needs to swipe their card. This is an official safeguarding measure and supports us to safeguard and register all of our students.
Phones/Earphones	<p>Phones and earphones should not be visible in corridors/outside spaces at any time. You can use your phone to support your learning in independent study time when seated in one of our study areas.</p> <p>If you are using a phone, ensure it is for study purposes. A purple slip will be given for inappropriate use of a phone, resulting in a detention</p>
Movement around the campus	You should not be using the corridors to access any parts of the building. You should be moving on the outside of the buildings at all times. I have spoken to IT who have given you access to the external door near to the silent study area with your ID card.



Revision Timetable



Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
07:00							
08:00							
09:00							
10:00							
11:00							
12:00							
13:00							
14:00							
15:00							
16:00							
17:00							
18:00							
19:00							
20:00							
21:00							
22:00							
23:00							



Practice



- 1 Attempt every Paper Question



- 2 Check each answer and mark it **harshly**



- 3 Make notes on what you got wrong and write out the correct answer



- 4 Come back to the questions and try steps 1 - 3 **at least** four times

Accountability

- 1 **Work Smart** - Don't do hours of 'reading' when one hour of synthesis or practice would work better
- 2 **Target Weakness** - Find out which areas you struggle with, those you don't like doing, those you avoid. Then spend most of your time on these because if you're struggling it means you need more time.
- 3 **Be Honest with Yourself** - Mark all your own work harshly. Do not let yourself get away with anything!
- 4 This is **your** qualification, earned by **you** if your teacher hasn't helped then it's **your responsibility** to skill yourself up



Revision Skills

from lessonhacker.com
Using images from thenaunproject.com

Scheduling

- 1 **Do the revision!** Allocate time and dates for your revision and stick to it - Eastenders can wait!
- 2 **Little and Often** An hour a night allows your brain to process and archive all the information for long term retrieval - cramming it in the last minute does not.
- 3 The minimum you should be doing is **5 hours a week per subject**, now it should be increasing
- 4 **Ramp it up** As you approach the exam you should allocate more time to it!

Synthesis



- 1 Take, Check and Summarise notes on each and every topic



- 2 Rewrite the notes to be more concise



- 3 Turn the notes into 'cheat sheets' on index cards or study notes



- 4 Test your knowledge using the 'cheat sheets'



Peers

- 1 **Don't fool yourself** - if the person you're working with knows more than you then make sure they are not answering every question for you
- 2 **Peer Tutoring** - Both work on a past paper question and mark each other's work being as harsh as possible. Follow the practice rules
- 3 **Hot Seat Topics** - Find out what topic the other person sucks at and ask them questions about it. Constantly, let them do the same for you

What can we do?

As Parents you can do a **huge** amount to help your child prepare for the examination, even if you know nothing about computers!

- 1 **Help Enforce the plan** - Assist the student in constructing a realistic revision timetable that they can stick to, and then hold them accountable to sticking to it
- 2 **Make the student evidence their work** - get them to show you the sizeable chunk of work they have produced for revision to ensure they are using the time effectively
- 3 **Become an Examiner** - Non Specialist teachers often mark exam papers based solely on the mark scheme, by doing this for your child you can force them to be more accurate in their answers