

15 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this letter you will find information about:

- The revision skills evening workshop
- March core subject mock exams

Tuesday 30 January: Revision Timetable Building Workshop 3 - 4.30pm in Lodeside hall

We will be running a repeat of the Revision Timetable Building session we ran in October. Student feedback from the November mocks indicated that some students would like to work on this. The session will cover:

- how to plan when to revise
- where you will revise
- what to revise (or where to find it)
- at least three different <u>strategies</u> to revise

Students should finish the session with an outline of their own revision plan and the tools to adapt it as the year progresses. If you think your child would benefit from this, please book a place by following the link: SchoolCloud - Soham Village College

Thursday 15 February: Parent/Carer and Child Revision Evening 5.40pm - 7pm

We are delighted to be able to offer a Revision Skills Evening to help you to support your child through their exams and help them achieve the best possible grades. We have run this event in previous years and have received excellent feedback from the students and parents who attended. The evening is for parents **and** their child. More details will follow closer to the time but please keep this date free for what should be an informative and practical session that will make you aware of the resources available to help your child fulfil their potential.

Monday 11 March: Core March Mocks

Students will sit their second round of core subject mock exams in the week commencing 13 March. This will be the first time students have taken English Language Component 1; Biology, Chemistry and Physics Paper 2 and maths topics not included in the November mock. The results of these mocks will provide robust evidence for how your child is coping with the demands of Year 11 and a strong indicator of what they will get in the summer; they can be used to make adjustments to GCSE predicted grades in some cases. This is also an opportunity for students to implement revision lessons learnt from the November mocks.



When students were surveyed about the November mocks, many of them reported they had not allocated enough time for the latter exams and that when they actually took the paper they realised they were not as prepared as they thought they were. This exam window provides the last opportunity to try different techniques and approaches before the real thing. The work carried out for these mocks will be critical preparation for the actual GCSEs which begin just six weeks later. You can find the 'March mock exam preparation booklet' on our website at Sohamvc.org) that will guide students to resources for each subject and give useful tips to make sure they are revising the correct content for the papers that they will take.

Mock exams to be taken:

- Maths: two papers, both 1 hour and 30 minutes
- English Language: one paper, 2 hours
- Science: **either** Combined Science paper 2 1 hour and 15 minutes each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics (3 papers in total)
 - **OR** Triple Science paper 2 1 hour 45 minutes each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics (3 papers in total)

Students will receive a timetable for the exam period next week. They will run from 13 March to 17 March.

If you have any questions or comments regarding anything to do with exam preparation, please contact me directly.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Slingsby Deputy Headteacher eslingsby@soham-college.org.uk

