



SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

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9th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Parents Evening and Revision Plans

I hope that this letter finds you well, and that you have found the information we've offered about revision techniques useful. We will continue to offer revision guidance in the coming weeks, and will, where possible, send home copies of information for your perusal.

The final Parents Evening of A Level is fast approaching, and will be held on Tuesday 5th of April between 4.30-7pm. It will be online, as this has been the model for other year groups, and has been reported as a popular option amongst parents. Student will make appointments with staff, and teachers will contact you to arrange an appointment though Teams. A guide to this process is included with this document. The parents evening will be an opportunity for teachers to share information about progress, the pre-release material for exam boards, and to offer advice and guidance on revision techniques too. Please do not feel you need to wait until parents evening to clarify anything with subject teachers however - we are enormously keen to support the efforts of all of our students to shine in their exams, and a dialogue between parents, students, teachers and students is central to that.

Throughout Sixth Form, we have highlighted the importance of a strong habit of independent work as central to student success. We expect, and encourage 5 hours per subject per week of independent work for students, and am continually proud of the hard work I see in our independent study sessions in schools. In our presentation in February, we shared research that shows that students who committed to 10 hours per subject per week showed some of the highest progress in a national test.

For our Year 13 students, the time to increase the intensity of independent work is now, and this pattern needs to be retained across the Easter break. Can I please ask that students are supported in studying for about 10 hours per week per subject across the Easter break, and that timetables are adapted to plan this carefully.

Teachers will indicate - both at parents evening and after - precise and focussed revision tasks across this time, and will of course be on hand after Easter to provide a sounding board about the efficacy and accuracy of revision work completed. Please support your son/daughter in planning for this, and ensuring that there is also an appropriate focus on rest and relaxation and plenty of fresh air at the same time. Where at all possible, and in these crucial weeks and months, paid work should be reduced or stopped.



I am aware that in asking to step up revision and to focus on work across a break that concerns will rightly be raised about wellbeing. Please do not hesitate to contact tutors or teachers if you feel we can further support your child in managing their wellbeing. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of managing mental health, and the schedules described above should of course be adapted if you judge rest and relaxation are needed. The next 15 weeks are undoubtedly going to be challenging, and tiring. It is our hope that a tight focus on revision, and a detailed approach to careful planning and preparation can reduce anxiety and increase a sense of readiness for exams. Please do let your child's tutor know if we can support them further.

Ms Jones, our exams officer, will be in contact next week to share a specific timetable for your child, and a general overview of the examination period too. It is likely that many subjects will offer further practice exams too, to allow students to trial exam questions focussed on pre-release material.

In the meantime, please accept my very warm wishes for the weeks ahead, and please don't hesitate to be in touch with your child's tutor if we can be of any further help or support.

Yours faithfully,

Matt Pike
Head of Sixth Form

