

Harris Church of England Academy

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Headteacher Mrs Roberta Harrison



20 September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this letter finds you well. I would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your child as we begin the new academic year at Harris Church of England Academy. Year 11 is an important and exciting year as students prepare for their final GCSE exams this summer, and we are here to support them every step of the way.

One of the key aspects of ensuring success is sustained and effective revision. We strongly encourage students to establish good revision habits early, allowing them to approach their exams with confidence and a deep understanding of their subjects.

Revision Techniques

A good technique for revision is the "20-20-20" revision method. This entails three 20-minute focused study sessions in an evening (20 minutes per chosen subject). Below I have given examples of what a 20 minute block may involve:

- First 5 minutes:
 - Recall from a self-made quiz from the last time they revised.
- Next 5 minutes:
 - Mind mapping what they know about a specific topic within a subject.
- Next 5 minutes:
 - Adding to this mind map in a different colour pen after checking original materials.
- Final 5 minutes:
 - Creating quiz questions from the topic or answering a GCSE style question.

This simple but consistent structure is manageable and efficient. It will add up to hours of quality revision over time. A good source of past papers is the app 'My Past Papers'.

Year 11 Mocks

To help support your child in their preparation, we will be holding two sets of mock exams this year, one in early November and one in late February, both starting after the half term breaks.

Both mock exam series will be conducted under strict exam conditions to replicate the experience of the real GCSE exams. This will not only help students become familiar with the process but will also allow us to provide targeted feedback to ensure every student is fully prepared.

In addition to the mock exams, we will be offering **optional revision sessions during October and February half-term breaks**. The schedule for these sessions will be shared shortly.

We have a robust **after-school revision programme** running throughout the week. These sessions are subject-specific and offer extra support to help consolidate learning. Below is the current schedule for after-school revision sessions:



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Afterschool Revision: Week 1 and 2

Date	Subject	Staff	Location	Time
1-Tuesday	Maths	Maths Staff	M02 & M03	3:25-4:25
1-Tuesday	French	DMY	301	3:30-4:15
1-Tuesday	Spanish	MFN	303	3:30-4:15
1-Tuesday	Food	EFN	OO8	3:25-4:25
1-Tuesday	Product Design	KTD	OO8	3:25-4:25
1-Wednesday	Music	JBA	MR2	3:25-4:25
1-Wednesday	English	English Staff	E01-E16	3:30-4:30
1-Wednesday	Business	VHS	IT11	3:25-4:25
1 -Thursday	Science	NPI	S23	3:30-4:25
1-Thursday	RS	RS Staff	M12	3:25-4:15
1-Thursday	German	SAR	302	3:30-4:15
1-Friday	PE & Sports Studies	MHT	IT12	3:25-4:25
2-Tuesday	Maths	Maths Staff	M02 & M03	3:25-4:25
2-Tuesday	Food	EFN	OO8	3:25-4:25
2-Tuesday	Product Design	KTD	OO8	3:25-4:25
2-Wednesday	English	English Staff	E01-E16	3:30-4:30
2-Wednesday	Music	JBA	MR2	3:25-4:25
2-Wednesday	Business	VHS	IT11	3:25-4:25
2-Thursday	Computer Science	SHN	IT13	3:25-4:25
2-Thursday	RS	RS Staff	M12	3:25-4:15
2-Friday	PE & Sports Studies	MHT	IT12	3:25-4:25

We encourage all students to take full advantage of these opportunities to enhance their learning and build their confidence as they move closer to their final exams.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact their teachers for specifics on how to target their revision – a list of staff emails can be found on the school website or a former SPR.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Chris O'Shea
Assistant Head – Exams & Data