

Belong. Believe. Be Proud.

The King Alfred School *An Academy*

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Principal: Mr Dan Milford



Ref: DM/SAH

2nd November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 is such an important year for our students and I know that I don't need to say how challenging it can be for them. However, along with the information included below, I feel confident that their maturity, their positive attitude and the one team spirit that so many of them have really shown this year, that we are going to see a fantastic set of personal and academic outcomes this year and I am certainly very proud to be their Head of Year. Hopefully this letter should help with any queries or concerns you might have about the support available, some important dates and key information regarding their exams, both mock and real, but if you do have any questions please feel free to either ask at the parents' evening or email me directly.

Attendance

Attendance is important at all stages of a child's education but especially in year 11. There is a direct correlation between attendance and success in exams and coursework. A child is classed as persistently absent if they miss 10% of their time in school, these students are less likely to make their expected progress by the end of Year 11. This also has a significant knock on effect to their Post 16 options. Each day lost in school equates to at least 5 and a half hours of lost learning time. Students need to catch up on any work they have missed and assessments may need to be completed in controlled conditions. If these are missed this could significantly impact a child's overall grade. The NHS have produced a useful guide to support parents and carers in assessing if their child is well enough to go to school, this can be found here <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>.

Parents' Evening

This is an important evening to make sure you are kept up-to-date on your child's progress. You have the chance to discuss how they are progressing and how best to work together to support them to achieve their best possible GCSE results. This is taking place on **Thursday 16th November** at school and the booking system is now live. The system can be accessed through the parents tab on the school website.

Mock Exams and Information Evening

Mock exams in all subject areas will take place between **8th January 2024 and 19th January 2024**. This will be a valuable opportunity for students to undergo the examination experience and showcase their knowledge and skills gained so far in their courses. Exam timetables will be issued to students by the beginning of December. To help you support your children at home with the preparation of these exams, we would like to invite you to a Parent Information Evening on **Monday 27th November** at 6pm in the Main Hall. Staff from the Core subjects and Humanities will be present to offer advice, information and revision strategies.

Period 6 and Homework

To ensure that we are best serving our Year 11s this term, we have a number of P6 sessions in place to support your child. These P6 sessions are carefully planned and led by a teacher to improve understanding of key concepts and harder to grasp topics in order to tackle exams questions successfully. There are also coursework catch up and practical sessions for some subjects. We strongly urge your child to attend as many P6 sessions as possible each week, and their teachers and tutors will be encouraging them to do so. Period 6 sessions run from 3:15pm - 4:15pm each day and the timetable can be found on the website here: <https://www.tkasa.org.uk/extra-curricular>

Year 11 homework is set by teachers and recorded on class charts. The standard and completion of homework is monitored and your child may be placed in homework support to help them with this. It is essential that your child is completing their homework as this will support them to achieve in their GCSEs.

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Registered office address: Priory Community School, Queensway, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset, BS22 6BP



Homework may include; coursework completion, exam question practice, core knowledge quizzes, revision online etc. The Year 11 Homework timetable and further information is here:

<https://www.tkasa.org.uk/homework>

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Written Component	Mathematics (30 mins)	English (30 mins)	Science (30 mins)	Independent (30 mins)
	Option D (30 mins)	Option B (30 mins)	Option C (30 mins)	Option A (30 mins)

If you have any questions about Period 6 or Year 11 homework please contact Mrs Griggs.

Ready to Learn

Could I also please remind you of the importance of smart uniform every day, which includes school trousers, rather than leggings and no facial jewellery. We would also like to reiterate the importance of students coming to school ready to learn - equipped with pens, pencils, rulers, rubbers and scientific calculators. These are essential tools for their learning. Revision guides are available to purchase at cost price online via Weduc. We also have a selection of used revision guides in our Pre-Loved Book Store. If any families in receipt of pupil premium funding are struggling to afford computer access or revision resources please contact Mrs Pickford.

6th Form Applications

Applications to join our Award Winning Sixth Form are now open <https://www.tkasa.org.uk/sixth-form-apply>).

Joining the TKASA Sixth Form Centre gives students the opportunity to develop themselves as successful independent learners within a supportive school environment. The TKASA Sixth Form Centre offers students a fresh start and the opportunity to excel within an aspirational and inspirational learning environment. Our Sixth Form has a friendly, welcoming and open atmosphere that visitors to our school will quickly notice.

Our expert, dedicated and committed teaching and pastoral staff work hard to ensure that students enjoy their time at TKASA Sixth Form and achieve the grades they need for the university course or job/apprenticeship that they wish to pursue after their studies. The jump from GCSE to A Level study can be quite a challenge, but at TKASA Sixth Form, we support students all of the way. We foster a supportive and caring learning environment that inspires and challenges students to flourish.

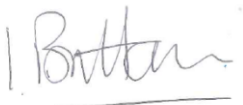
The Sixth Form Centre provides the ideal climate for students to achieve their full potential. We provide a wide range of opportunities and enrichment activities to broaden our students' experiences and understanding of the world. Students are treated and valued as individuals and are encouraged to thrive in their academic studies and wider enrichment activities. If you would like to come and visit our facilities, talk to our teaching or pastoral staff, please contact us and arrange an appointment.

Prom/Yearbook

Plans are now underway for our Year 11 Prom which will take place in July 2024. We are also now in the process of organising our Yearbook committee, with more information to follow in the coming weeks.

As always, thank you for your support to our school and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions about any of the above.

Yours Sincerely,



Ivor Brittan
Head of Year 11