

## Year 11 - The Year Ahead

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we have completed our first few weeks of Year 11, I thought it would be helpful to give you a brief overview of our programme for the year ahead along with some key dates.

As you may know, the previous Year 11 group of students left SBL with extremely pleasing examination results and a large number have remained with us for Post 16 study. We have every expectation that we will be able to do the same for your daughter and/or son with your continued support.

As you begin to plan ahead, we hope to see you at our forthcoming **SBL Post-16 Open Evening on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October**. Here you will be able to find out about our Post 16 (Sixth Form) and the courses available to all students.

At this point in term 1, students are building towards our Internal (mock) Exams which will begin on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** – a precise timetable will follow shortly. On Tuesday of this week, one of our Assistant Headteachers (Mr G Jones) spoke with all of Year 11 about the year ahead and I include below links to some of the valuable resources he spoke about.

- **Specific revision advice and topics:** Our curriculum teams have put together a revision website which can be accessed [here](#). It summarises all of the key information that students will need in order to prepare for their November Internal Exams.
- **General revision advice:** This [How Student Learn](#) resource gives a scientific insight into how we remember things including specific revision strategies that we know work.
- **Revision sessions timetable:** After-school revision sessions are offered in every subject for year 11 students and these are already up and running.

Day	Subject
Monday	Science, Photography, Art, Computing, H&S, Psychology, Sociology
Tuesday	History, Geography, PE, Engineering, Product Design, Textiles, Food, Performance, Business
Wednesday	English, Spanish, French
Thursday	Maths, Values & Beliefs
Friday	

The results of the forthcoming internal examinations will be provided before the Christmas holiday to give you and your child time to understand the progress that has been made up to now and to work on the areas to improve leading into the second half of the year. In February 2024, students will have another opportunity to take additional practice exams. These exams are scheduled to begin on **Monday 26th February 2024**.

In order to keep you fully updated on your child's progress, we will be sending home reports to you which will tell you the grades that we are predicting for your son or daughter in the summer exams. Please look out for these reports around the following dates:

<b>Report 1</b>	Mid-October 2023
<b>Report 2</b>	Mid-December 2023
<b>Report 3</b>	End of March 2024

In order to secure the best possible grades, you will notice the increased amount of Home Study being set for your child. Completing this Home Study is a crucial part of the independent learning necessary to succeed in the examinations that will take place in the summer term.

In terms of careers guidance, we will continue with our programme so that our students are well informed about what is possible into the future. Work experience is approaching fast and all forms need to be returned to Tutors by 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023. See: <https://careers.sbllearning.org.uk/work-experience>

Some students are entitled to “exam access arrangements” specific to them including things like extra-time to complete the exam, reading pens, scribes and the use of laptops. If you are concerned that your child may be eligible for one of these things but this has not been identified up to now, please do contact the school at [enquiries@sblacademy.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@sblacademy.org.uk).

The majority of the external summer exams will begin in late April and Early May and will finish in late June. Students will be expected to attend school fully until the early part of term 6. In term 6, some study leave is granted, but this will depend on the examination timetable. We do know at this point that students are required to be available for exams until the end of June 2024.

Whilst rest and family time are important parts of holiday time, it is vital that revision and independent learning at home also has a prominent part to play in holiday times during Year 11. We encourage students to take a balanced approach to work, rest and play but it is important also to make sacrifices if students want to secure excellent grades to take into the rest of their lives.

We want the students to be ambitious, work hard and to aspire to Post 16 study, apprenticeships, university and the world of work. It is very important that your children feel able to talk to their parents, teachers and other staff about the challenges ahead and also that they have a clear sense how they will get there. Please do speak with your daughter or son on this as and when the opportunity presents itself.

Hopefully, you will feel that you have our support as parents and carers and that you will feel welcome to approach us at SBL if you feel that we can help or advise you. Please do contact your daughter or son’s Head of House if you feel that we can assist you further.

With every best wish for the year ahead,

Yours faithfully

Mr S A White  
Deputy Headteacher

<b>Summary of Key Dates for Year 11</b>	
<b>SBL Post-16 Open Evening</b>	Thursday 19th October
<b>Report (1) to parents/carers</b>	Mid-October 2023
<b>Autumn Practice (mock) exams</b>	w/c Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
<b>Year 11 Work Experience</b>	w/c 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
<b>Report (2) to parents/carers</b>	w/c 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
<b>Spring Practice (mock) exams</b>	w/c 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
<b>Report (3) to parents/carers</b>	w/c Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
<b>External summer examinations begin</b>	Late April (to be confirmed) 2024