

22nd May 2020



Dear Parent and Carer

Re: GCSEPod for Year 9

In order to ensure that your Year 9 daughter/son can continue to learn in the unusual circumstances we find ourselves in, we are pleased to announce that we have recently invested in GCSEPod, the award-winning digital content and revision provider used by over 1,250 schools worldwide. This facility will be available for your child for the year ahead at least.

From next term, our teachers will be making reference to GCSEPod in the lessons they set in a large range of subjects such as English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, French, German, IT, PE, as well as a number of others. As subscribers, our students will have access to GCSEPod's library of over 6,000 'Pods,' 3-5 minute videos designed to deliver knowledge in short bursts. GCSEPod makes learning and revision much more manageable: every Pod is mapped to our exam boards and contains all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for exam success – all neatly organised into topics and exam playlists.

One of the best things about GCSEPod is that you can download any Pod to a mobile device if you have one, and then students can watch them at any time, in any place, with or without internet. It's like they're carrying a whole set of textbooks in their pocket! You can download the GCSEPod app from the App Store (Apple and Android are supported) to access this feature too, if you wish.

GCSEPod also has the ability to identify knowledge gaps and automatically send playlists to help fill those gaps. After completing any homework set on GCSEPod, our students will get a personalised "Boost Playlist" of Pods relevant to their identified areas of weakness. We strongly suggest that all students review these playlists regularly as this will speed up their progress.

Please talk about GCSEPod in your family to help them to successfully ensure that this amazing resource is used throughout KS4 exam courses. Once accounts are activated, students can browse the GCSEPod library and create playlists – just like listening to music. For more ways to be supported whilst using GCSEPod, please visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where there is a great deal more information and resources for everyone.

Students have already been registered with GCSEPod, so in order to be able to use the facility we would ask parents and carers to ensure that accounts are activated as follows:

- 1) Go to www.gcsepod.com and click "**Login**" in the top right-hand corner
- 2) Click "**New here? Get started.**"
- 3) Select "**Student**"
- 4) Enter your child's **name, date of birth and the school name – 'SBL Academy'**.
- 5) Create a **username, password**, and a **password hint** to help them remember the password.

We are sure that your students will find GCSEPod really useful in the year ahead and we look forward to celebrating success during that time and at the end of Year 11 in August 2022.

Yours sincerely



S White
Vice Principal