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Dear Parent,

As GCSE examinations are underway and we move into the study leave phase, I share with you the guidance that has already been given to your child, as attached.

As Year 11 commences study leave and lessons stop, teachers are reallocated to provide examination invigilation, which means they will not always be available during the timetabled lesson time.

I have informed pupils of this and advised that should they need to see their teacher during study leave they will need to email them to book an appointment to secure their availability. Sometimes it might just be a quick question which can be answered by email, on other occasions they may need to have a discussion, so booking a time will enable that to take place.

Your child may prefer to revise at home, and we are happy to accommodate that. Please would you let the Housemaster/mistress and tutor know. When revising in school there are set routines and expectations that have been explained to all in year 11.

I would like to share a few points regarding the exams; as you know, we are obliged to adhere to the exam regulations as set out by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) – the body that oversees all UK examination bodies. Their regulations demand that no electronic devices are taken into the exam venue, and this includes watches, even analogue watches are no longer allowed as many smart phones can be changed to look like an analogue watch, therefore JCQ have imposed a simple rule so there is no uncertainty- no watches, no phones. I mention this so you are aware why your child will be told to lock these items away before reporting to the exam venue.

August will come soon enough. GCSE results day is 24th August, IGCSE is earlier on the 16th. Results are sent out by email to the pupil using their Ellesmere email. They will also be available to you on the parent portal.

Would you please remind your child that they must keep their inbox healthy, they need to delete old emails – if their inbox has exceeded capacity, it will mean they will not receive any emails, including their results.

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I appreciate that the study leave phase is an anxious time for parents; worries around are they revising enough; are they revising too much. You don't wish to interfere with their revision plan but likewise it is hard if you feel they are not utilising their time effectively.

There is a plethora of advice online and one I can recommend is the BBC Bitesize site as both useful for pupil revision, and to help parents navigate the journey ahead.

[Five ways to help your kids kick-start revision - BBC Bitesize.](#)

I hope all goes well.

Regards

*S. V. Pitt-Roberts*

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