



Church Road, Lydney  
Gloucestershire, GL15 5DZ  
T: 01594 843202  
E: [info@thedeanaacademy.org](mailto:info@thedeanaacademy.org)  
[www.thedeanaacademy.org](http://www.thedeanaacademy.org)

Richard Brand: Headteacher

24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As the summer examination period rapidly approaches, I wanted to get in touch to outline some of the important details regarding these crucial last few weeks of your child's time here with us at The Dean Academy.

### **Year 11 GCSE Examination Revision**

I have been so proud of the work that our Year 11 students have been putting into their revision thus far, both in school and independently and we were thrilled to see so many at our Easter revision sessions. Over these coming weeks we will continue to work closely with you on supporting your child to achieve their potential in their GCSE exams. We will be offering a half term revision academy, akin to the Easter school and more details will follow closer to the time. The period 6 timetable will be continuing until the exams start on May 9<sup>th</sup>, with students being directed towards specific, bespoke sessions to support their revision. Following this, we will be continuing to run period 6 sessions specific to examinations taking place the following day and attendance will be at the discretion of the student – we understand that at this point some students may prefer to be revising at home, especially if they have had a day with 1 or 2 examinations. The library will also be made available to Year 11 students every day after school until 5pm from now until the time the students leave.

### **School attendance until the end of the exam period**

Students will be expected to attend school every day right up until the last whole cohort core exam on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June. We know that the routine for coming to school every day and contact with their subject teachers allows them the best chance to perform well in these exams. This is especially important because these final weeks represent an opportunity to maximise learning time in school.

During the exam season, students will be expected to come into school as normal every day, whether or not they have an exam. They will go to lessons as usual, where they will work on revision and exam practice until the exams for that subject are over. They will then continue to go to that lesson when it is timetabled but will be able to use the time for revision in other subjects yet to be examined. **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June** will be the last day that all students are expected in school. If students have an exam that morning they should come in as normal for their booster. If students do not have an exam, they should arrive at **11.30am** at the front of the school. Students must wear school uniform but are welcome to bring in shirts to sign. The day will end at 3.15pm. Please note that students should still be available until 26<sup>th</sup> June which has been allocated as one of 3 contingency days (the others being the afternoons of 6<sup>th</sup> June and 13<sup>th</sup> June) in the event that any examinations are disrupted on a national or local level and as such require rescheduling by the exam boards.



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Students have received their individualised exam timetables today (please keep these safe and ensure that students bring them with them to each of their exams) and prior to each exam we will be putting on subject “booster” sessions where the students will be with their subject teacher for 40-60 minutes, completing targeted revision and recapping of some of the core content. From there they will go to a pre-exam briefing for 10 minutes, before then going to their exam room. This means that for morning exams, students should arrive in school for 8.20 a.m. promptly to attend their booster session.

It is **essential** that students are prompt to exams – students will not be allowed entry into the exam hall if they are late. If a student cannot attend an exam, please let us know as soon as possible with a reason (if the reason is due to illness, a doctor’s note will be required as evidence for us to provide to the examination boards). The school absence line is **01594 840912**. Please also mention the GCSE exam as part of your message. It should be noted that unfortunately, due to the conditions set in place by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ), **students who miss exams will not be able to sit them at another time.**

Please find here a link to an important document from the JCQ that outlines some important information for all parents/carers and students who are taking exams in 2024 – can you please take the time to read through this important document ([IFC-Written Examinations 2324 Revision One FINAL.pdf](#)). Further information can be found on the JCQ website.

### **Leavers Hoodies and Yearbook**

As detailed in a previous letter, Leavers’ hoodies, T-shirt and other memorabilia can be purchased from Forest Apparel online, <https://forestapparel.co.uk/>. If there are uncertainties regarding sizes, please visit their store in Lydney. Orders must be placed by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May.

Yearbooks are also available to order at: <https://allyearbooks.co.uk/buy/20684>. Yearbooks contain individual student and tutor photographs, along with some photographs of students throughout their time with us at The Dean Academy. There will also be some special messages from staff members wishing students the best of luck in their future ventures.

### **Prom**

This year’s Prom venue has been selected by the Year 11 Prom Committee and it will take place at The Speech House Hotel on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024, 6.30 p.m. – 11.00 p.m. A separate letter with details has been sent out, but as a reminder, tickets will be £37.50 and can be purchased via ParentPay or using PayPoint until 24th May. Please contact Mrs Price if you require further information regarding this event.

### **Results Day**

Results will be available for collection at the school on Thursday 22nd August 2024 from 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Any results not collected will be sent out by first class post. If students are unable to collect results in person, a letter or email must be supplied to designate someone to



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collect them on the student's behalf. This letter/email must be addressed to Julie Roberts, Exams Officer.

### **Return of Textbooks**

Please can students return any textbooks they have borrowed to the relevant Director of Faculty as soon as they have finished using them or put them in the boxes provided in the foyer area. Alternatively, books can be returned on results day.

### **Certificates**

Final exam certificates will be available for collection from the school reception after October 2024. We will put this information on our website.

Finally, I wanted to take this moment to say thank you for continuing to work with us over these important coming few weeks to help your child organise their revision to ensure that they perform at their very best in the exams. As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

**Hannah Rowlands**  
Deputy Headteacher

HR/TW - Year 11 Exams letter-240424



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