

7th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the past few years, we have successfully introduced **Period 6** after-school sessions to support Year 11 students in preparing for their GCSE examinations. Following careful reflection, we have refined the programme to give students greater independence while ensuring it continues to deliver strong results.

Period 6 will run weekly from **Monday to Friday, 15:15–16:15**, from the week beginning **Monday 7th September**. Each afternoon, a range of subjects will be available, giving students the opportunity to work with subject specialists. During these sessions, students will revisit key lesson content, strengthen their revision techniques, and practice applying their knowledge to exam-style questions.

Following Period 6, we also offer a '**Victory Hour**' from **Monday to Thursday 16:15 – 17:00** for students who want to complete independent revision in the library. A member of the Senior Leadership team will be on site to support your child if they choose to take advantage of this.

Extensive research shows that students who attend regular, additional intervention sessions make **significantly more** progress than those who do not. At the same time, we recognise the importance of protecting students' wellbeing by avoiding excessive study demands. For this reason, **Period 6** and **Victory Hour** sessions are **optional**. While your child will be strongly encouraged to attend, we believe it is important to trust them to make the decision that best supports their learning.

To celebrate commitment, every student who takes part will receive '*Embrace the Geek*' cards, enjoy baked and cooked treats, and collect stamps on their **Period 6 loyalty card**. Ten stamps will earn them a special award.

We are also delighted to share the new **Period 6 timetable** below. Many staff have generously offered their time to deliver these sessions, all with the shared aim of supporting students to achieve their very best.

Monday	Science (Mr Webb and Mrs Wheatstone) English Maths (Mrs Turner) French Computer Science Product Design
Tuesday	Maths (Mrs Weaver) Science (Mrs Squire) PE Art
Wednesday	Maths (Mr Swain) Geography Business Music
Thursday	Maths (Mrs D'Costa - Girls only) Maths (Mrs Meredith – Foundation tier) Maths (Mrs Holt – Higher tier) History Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
Friday	Maths (Mrs Weaver) Science (Mrs Rose)

We understand that for a minority of students they will require transport home. If you are unable to sort out alternative transport for your child, the Dean Academy will provide transport home via minibus at 4:30pm. If you know your child will need transport regularly, please contact info@thedeacademy.org to help us with our planning. If it is an irregular occurrence, your child can sign up for the minibus via our Resources Centre. Please note that the minibus can become full, and so we advise your child to sign up in advance rather than on the day.

If you have any questions about Period 6 or the year ahead, please contact Tom Fessey, Raising Standards Leader (tfessey@thedeacademy.org).

Yours sincerely,



Tom Fessey
Assistant Headteacher & Raising Standards Leader