



Ref: THA/LHE

Re: Year 11 Support for Summer 2026 Exams

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We know every school year is important, but Year 11 is special. It's the final year of secondary school, and the GCSEs taken this year are a huge step that will help shape a student's future. To reflect this, you will notice some changes in Year 11. We are adjusting our approach so teachers can spend more time working with students of all abilities, from those who need extra support to those who need to be pushed to achieve the very best results.

Throughout the year, we will also provide a range of other opportunities, including extra sessions, a dedicated revision event, and several mock exam seasons to prepare students for their final exams. Although these changes and events won't happen right away, I want to give you advance notice of what they are and the reasons behind them.

Changes to The Form Period

We will make the most of the time before period 1 to deliver extra classroom sessions to students who need them. The focus of these sessions may change throughout the year as students develop their understanding and knowledge in these subjects. For now, these sessions are focused on a variety of subjects.

After School (Period 5) Intervention

Our teachers will be giving up their time after school to deliver additional lessons. These sessions will feel different from usual classes; for example, teachers may focus on recapping previous learning or specific skills students need to master for the final exams. It could include completing past papers. A full timetable for these sessions will be shared with students and parents in the next few weeks.

Mocks and Mini Mocks

Year 11 students can expect frequent testing and assessments throughout the year. The more practice they get with sitting exam papers, the better prepared they will be. The following mock periods are planned for Year 11 this school year:

- Mini Mocks (English, Maths, and Science only): Week commencing Monday 20th October, 2025
- Mock Exam Season 1: Week commencing Monday 8th December, 2025
- Mock Exam Season 2: Week commencing Tuesday 24th February, 2026



The 'Green Line'

At certain points throughout the year, especially before mock exams, Year 11 students will be welcomed at the school gate each morning with a friendly, low-stakes quiz. Members of our English, Maths, and Science departments will be at the "Green Line" to ask students questions designed to help them remember more.

Study Skills Evening

We know that many parents want to help their children with revision, but aren't sure how to start. That's why we're hosting our Study Skills Evening. Please come along with your son or daughter to get practical advice on how to support your child during Year 11. Students will also receive valuable tips on how to revise different subjects. The Study Skills Evening will take place on Thursday 23rd October. More information will be shared soon.

Good GCSE Grades Can Lead to More Opportunities

If your child is considering our sixth form or another college after Year 11, it's worth noting that they all have minimum entry requirements, including our own. Typically, students need a GCSE grade 4 (or equivalent) as a minimum. Students who do not achieve a grade 4 in English or Maths will have to resit these as part of their studies. In fact, some specific A-level subjects have even higher entry requirements, so achieving grades of 5 or higher would give students many more options.

Wickersley Sixth Form Open Evening 2025

Did you know that our sixth form secures the highest number of top grades in Rotherham and is among the best-performing sixth forms in South Yorkshire? To learn how your son or daughter can apply to study with us next year, please attend our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 13th November, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All students, including those currently at Wickersley, must apply for a place. More information about the evening will be shared with you soon.

And Finally...

We hope you'll encourage your son or daughter to make the most of the opportunities and support available to them at school. When students, parents, and the school work together throughout this crucial year, the results prove to be unbeatable.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Hardcastle
Headteacher