

7 June 2022

RE: Year 11 Study Leave

Dear Parent/carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

As you are aware, the GCSE examinations are well under way, and we have been incredibly proud of all of our students for the responsible and calm manner in which they have approached their examinations so far.

The exam period is a crucial time for students, and I appreciate that different revision techniques and different learning environments will work best for different students. I have listened carefully to feedback from parents/carers and students and recognise that some students feel strongly that they would work better independently from home. Equally, I accept that this is not the view of all students. With your viewpoints in mind, Year 11 will now be permitted to study from home should you feel that this is in their best interests. Alternatively, to support students who would prefer to revise in school with the support from their specialist teachers they will have the option to do so until Friday 17 June.

Students will therefore have the following options available to them from Tuesday 7 June:

Option 1:

Your child commences study leave from today (Tuesday 7 June). They attend for their exams only and revise from home to maximise their performance in the remaining GCSE examinations. Study leave is authorised and therefore your child's attendance will not be impacted if they choose this option.

Option 2:

Your child continues to attend for their examinations and their revision sessions, as normal, until Friday 17 June. When your child is not in an examination, they should follow their normal school timetable and attend their lessons where they will complete purposeful revision for their upcoming examinations. From Friday 17 June your child will only be required to attend school for their examinations.

There is no requirement for parents/carers to confirm which option your child wishes to choose. Furthermore, should your child wish to change their mind at any point up until Friday 17 June then they will have the freedom to do so.

Further communications regarding the Year 11 leavers' assembly will be communicated in due course.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to you for your support during this crucial time in your child's life. We look forward to the remaining time that your child has with us at John Smeaton Academy over the final few weeks and continue to be here to support them until their very last exam.

Yours Sincerely,



Pascoe Gill
Principal