

7 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**RE: Year 10 Engage Evening – Thursday 16 May 2024**

Your child has now entered their final term of Year 10 which means they are at the mid-way point of the two-year GCSE qualifications they are currently undertaking. In just a few weeks' time, from week-commencing Monday 17 June 2024, your child will be completing their first mock examination series within the academy and it will be their first opportunity to experience a full set of mock GCSE examinations.

The mock examinations are designed to mirror the official GCSE examinations that your child will undertake at the end of Year 11. The purpose of completing a mock examination series is to familiarise your child with official examination protocol, establish how they can perform in each of their subjects (whilst working completely independently) and to identify any misconceptions/gaps in learning that will need to be addressed through future teaching and learning. The mock examinations are extremely important in identifying where your child is currently at and what support they may require as they enter Year 11. Therefore, it is expected that every student will prepare for their mock examinations by completing independent revision and homework that will be set by their teachers.

At John Smeaton Academy, we recognise that parents and carers play a critical role in supporting their child's learning and their mental health and wellbeing. Research shows that high levels of parental engagement are consistently associated with better outcomes for students (Education Endowment Foundation: 2021). Therefore, ahead of your child's first mock examination series, on Thursday 16 May 2024, we would like to welcome you and your child to the **Year 10 Engage Evening from 5:30pm-7:00pm** where we will aim to provide families with critical information about how your child can prepare effectively and confidently for their mock examinations.

The Engage Evening will consist of families receiving the following four workshops:

1. What do you need to know about Post-16 applications?
2. How to revise for English Language
3. How to revise for English Literature
4. How to revise of Science GCSE

Each workshop will take around 20 minutes and will be designed to be interactive so that students and families can practically apply the different revision strategies and topics. Entrance to the academy will be via the main entrance and doors will open at 5:30pm. A hot meal and refreshments will be made available upon arrival and the first workshop will commence at 5:45pm. Parking will also be available on site via the main school car park. Students will also receive a revision pack and some revision stationery to support them.

Please complete the permission form (<https://forms.office.com/e/002cKQhEUe>) no later than Monday 13 May 2024; it asks to let us know how many of your family intend to come, in order that we can plan for catering accordingly. We really look forward to working with you and your child on Thursday 16 May 2024 (5:30pm-7:00pm).

Yours faithfully



Mrs L O'Connor  
Vice Principal



Mr G Nunney  
Head of Key Stage 4

