

# **The Priory School**

## **Educating Students for Success in Life**

The Priory School Bedford Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2UR

> 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 EWH/JWI3

Dear Parent / Carer

#### **Year 11 Important Diary Dates and Opportunities**

We are writing to let you know some of the important diary dates and opportunities you and your children have as we head towards exam season this summer. Please read this carefully with your child, explore the resources and take note of the evening sessions available to you.

## **Exam Support at Lunch and After School**

Please find linked here a document which lays out extra support sessions that departments are offering during lunch times and after school. Some of these sessions will be targeted at individuals or groups of students but should your child wish to take advantage of these, they should attend to speak to the relevant teacher.

#### Year 11 Revision Intervention 2024

## **Exam and Revision Guidance for Parents and Students**

This document is broken down by subject and lays out links to revision and support materials that students could use in their exam preparation. This was circulated to you earlier this academic year, but as a reminder, here it is again.

#### GCSE Revision Resources 2024

## **Diary Dates**

# Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Wellbeing Event – 6.30pm – 7.30pm

This is a whole school parent event which will be hosted by external professionals and school staff on the subject of wellbeing and will offer you strategies to support your child if this is something of interest or concern to you. A separate communication will be sent to sign up to this event.

## Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Student Exam Support – 3.45pm – 5.00pm

This session will run as an after school event in which we will offer a carousel of activities to support Year 11 in their preparation for their exams. Sessions will focus on revision techniques, wellbeing, time management and others.

# Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Exam Support – 6.00pm – 6.45pm

On the same evening as the session for students listed above, parents are invited to school for a short information event hosted by our staff. During this, we will lay out the plans for the exam season, offer you tips to support your children at home and field any questions you may have. This event will be supported by NHS staff who you might like to speak to if you have concerns regarding your child's mental wellbeing.

PTO

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Progress Check 3 is sent home to you.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – Enrichment Day (Exam Ready Day). Students will take part in a range of off-timetable activities to equip them for the exam season.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent Teacher Consultations – this will be face to face appointments in school. Details to follow.

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Leavers' Day

Thursday 9th May - Exams begin

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Year 11 Prom

## **Prom Invitation and Payment**

As you are aware, we are reaching the end of Year 11 and it is customary to celebrate the end of Key Stage 4 and students' time at The Priory School, with an end of year Prom. I am delighted to inform you that your child will be invited to this event, subject to meeting our Prom criteria (see criteria details below).

The Year 11 Prom will be held at The Priory School on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 from 7pm - 11pm. This will certainly be an evening to remember. We have worked hard to ensure that ticket prices have been kept as low as possible, therefore tickets for the Prom will cost £23 each. This includes all food and soft drinks during the evening and the hire of a number of external suppliers to make the event magical. To enable us to cater for numbers, tickets will need to be paid for in advance by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Should you purchase a ticket and your child is unfortunately unable to attend due to not meeting the school expected criteria, you will receive a refund through ScoPay. We will be in contact with you directly prior to this.

If you are eligible for financial support and would like to discuss this, please contact Finance on <a href="mailto:finance@priory.herts.sch.uk">finance@priory.herts.sch.uk</a>.

## **Prom Criteria**

We look forward to celebrating the end of your child's compulsory schooling by holding a Prom. As mentioned above, the Prom will be held at The Priory School on Thursday 27th June 2024 from 7pm - 11pm. However, this is a school-run non-compulsory event and therefore we have specific expectations in order to attend.

We have chosen to place the conditions as being operational between Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. This was communicated to Year 11 in an assembly yesterday and further reminders will be given.

- Behaviour points Should a student reach 10 behaviour points during the period stated above, the students' attendance at the Prom will be reviewed. All decisions will be made at our discretion with prior behaviour in Year 11 being taken into account.
- Punctuality Should a student reach 10 late marks during the period stated above, the students'
  attendance at Prom will be reviewed. All decisions will be made at our discretion with prior
  punctuality in Year 11 being taken into account.
- Attendance If a student has attendance below 95% between the dates listed above, their Prom attendance will be reviewed with a decision made at our discretion. Once again, their prior

attendance and any medical conditions will be taken into account during this process. Absence for genuine reasons such as hospital appointments will not affect this.

The rationale behind this strategy is that we want to incentivise our students to attend and behave so that they give themselves and their peers the very best chance possible to make a success of their GCSEs.

We would love to see every Year 11 student in attendance at the Prom but also cannot tolerate behaviour that may damage the chances of high attainment for all.

Please note, attendance to Prom is at the school's discretion and we withhold the right to refuse entry, even if these parameters have not been reached, for example, a one-off serious incident.

If there are occasions where your child is coming close to either of these thresholds, we shall communicate this with the student and yourselves to look at the best ways to avoid your child missing the Year 11 Prom. The Year 11 cohort have been outstanding throughout KS4 and we want to avoid any students having an enforced absence.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on <a href="EWhite@priory.herts.sch.uk">EWhite@priory.herts.sch.uk</a>.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E. White

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Head of Key Stage 4