

Our Ref: JP/JAS

21st March 2025



Wednesfield Academy
www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 are rapidly approaching the start of their GCSE examinations this summer, and it is now a matter of days before the first examinations starts. With this in mind, the below letter has been sent to you with crucial information to ensure your child is as successful as possible. They should be following a structured revision timetable, and working independently outside of school studying regularly.

Home Study

To ensure they reach their potential, pupils must be studying at home. To support effective home study, we have collated a range of helpful information and resources to support home study on our website: - <https://wednesfieldacademy.com/revision-resources/>

On this page you can gain access to:

- Advice on how to organise you study
- Revision timetable templates to support study
- Outline of four high impact study techniques
- Subject specific revision resources
- Examination papers.

Revision Guides

As per previous correspondence if your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, we are able to help purchase revision guides for their fast-approaching examinations. Please click the link here if you would like us to support your child with this: <https://forms.office.com/e/3hKY33zC4q>

Supporting Your Child to Study Smarter

'From the Sidelines' have created some fantastic study hack videos aimed at informing parents and families about the science behind how our children learn, together with how to create the perfect environment at home in which to support them: - <https://www.fromthesidelines.uk/study-hacks>.

Each distinct focus has a short and succinct '**Study Hack**' video that lasts approximately 60 seconds, giving parents a quick and practical overview of what the study hack is and how to do it. For parents who want to know more, they can then go on to watch or listen to the 15 minute '**Podcast Episode**' linked to the same topic, which gets under the surface of why this works, why it's important and also what to avoid - the perfect way to bridge the gap between teaching and parenting.

Attendance

Year 11 attendance during the mock examinations has been excellent for the majority of pupils. It is vital that pupils attend **every day** from now until their very last examination. In a recent study conducted by the Department for Education (March 2025) it showed a strong correlation between pupil attendance and positive outcomes (the graph below is taken from the DfE report) which you can read in more detail here: -



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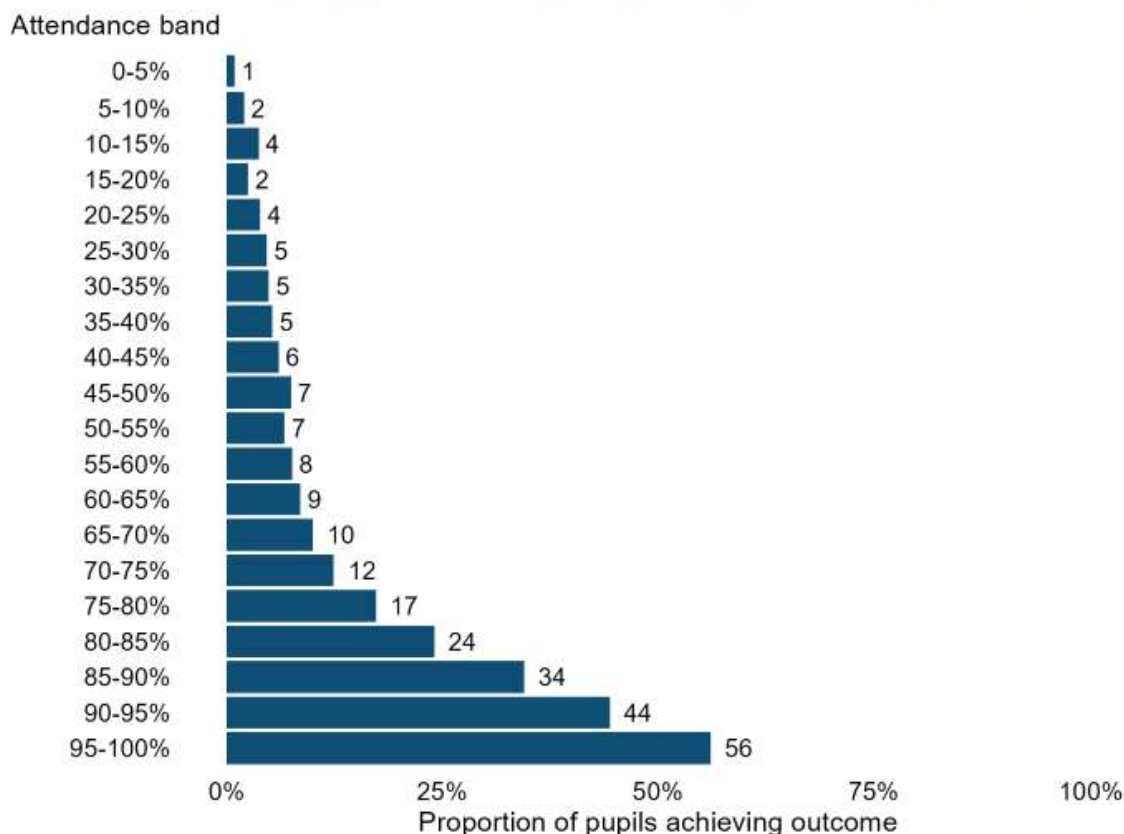


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https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67c96d7dd0fba2f1334cf2ed/The_link_between_n_attendance_and_attainment_in_an_assessment_year_-_March_2025.pdf

Figure 6 Proportion of pupils in each 5% attendance band for Year 11 achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSE at the end of KS4



In our recent letter dated 11th March 2025, we stated the importance of full attendance for each examination and the financial cost for parents/carers if examinations are missed. The letter explained: -

'Pupils' attendance in external examinations is mandatory even if your child feels a little under the weather as this is their only opportunity to sit the examination. Where there is a serious medical issue, proof of illness through a doctor's note will be required, but please be aware it may not be accepted by the examination board and if so, would result in zero marks being awarded for the paper missed. Parents/carers will be charged for all unnecessarily missed examinations which ranges from £43.00 - £113.00 per examination'.

The Final Push – Every Lesson Counts

Teachers are currently finishing marking mocks to identify pupils' knowledge and gaps. We will be using this information to focus the learning during the remaining weeks to give pupils the best possible opportunity to meet their potential in the summer examinations. Every hour counts and it is essential pupils start every day with the equipment and resources needed and a positive, can-do attitude to their studies.



Year 11 Examinations – Essential Equipment

All Year 11 pupils should have the following essential equipment ready for their lessons and external examinations. In a **clear pencil case**: -

- Black pen (this cannot be a gel pen or erasable pen)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Compass (examinations only)
- Calculator (for specified examinations)

Pupils are permitted to bring **water** into the examination in a **clear water bottle**. There must not be any labels or writing on the bottle. Pupils must understand and adhere to the strict JCQ examination regulations below. Failure to do so could lead to examination malpractice which has to be reported to the examination board: - https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/IFC-Written_Examinations_2024_FINAL.pdf.

Intervention – The Final Push

Period 6 and 8.00am Intervention Clubs will restart on Monday 28th April 2025 at the beginning of the new term, and more information will be shared by Mr Hill (Assistant Headteacher) soon regarding which subjects are available on which morning/evenings of the week. It is important that pupils are aware that the offer will be different from one week to the next based upon examinations taking place that week.

Study Hall

Study Hall will be starting on Monday 24th March (3.00-4.00pm) every afternoon for Year 11 only above the library. Here there will be hot chocolate and biscuits available for pupils while they study in a quiet space with access to the computers.

Easter Sessions

To give Year 11 parents advanced notice, the school will be open during the Easter holidays and sessions will be put on by our dedicated teachers. Pupil attendance of those invited to the sessions is pivotal in ensuring success in their examinations this summer. The dates of the individual sessions will be communicated with you over the next couple of weeks, but will include Mathematics, English, Science as well as several other subjects. The school will be closed to all staff and pupils on the Bank Holidays (Friday 18th April 2025 and Monday 21st April 2025).

Year 11 Leavers Event

We will be holding a special leavers event for Year 11 once their examinations are over; the date of this event remains to be confirmed but to attend this event pupils must have:

- Had 100% attendance from Monday 24th March 2025 to the end of the examinations (medical appointments require evidence to authorise any absence),
- Attended all GCSE examinations they have entered for,
- Attend a minimum of 15 revision sessions (study hall will be included as a session),
- Display a positive attitude towards their studies for the remainder of their time in school.

Year 11 Prom/Celebration Assembly Information

The Year 11 Prom will take place on Wednesday 16th July 2025, at Molineux Stadium starting at 6.30pm and finishing at 11.00pm. As outlined before, to be able attend Prom pupils must have:

1. Met all coursework and assessment deadlines across all subjects
2. Displayed excellent behaviour and conduct throughout all mock and real examinations
3. Shown to have given their very best to their studies aiming to reach their targets in all subjects.



If a child is suspended or on placement during Year 11 this will put their place at risk, and any further suspensions from the date of this letter will result in your child not being part of the leavers assembly or Prom. Final payments for the Year 11 Prom should now have been paid.

Year 11 Parent/Carer Information Evening

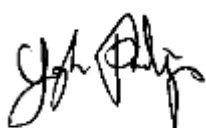
We shall be holding a Year 11 Information Evening for Parents/Carers on **Monday 7th April 2025 from 5.30-6.30pm**. This will provide you with essential information to support your child ahead of the forthcoming external examinations.

Appointments are not required for this event; please could you sign in via the main reception.

Destinations and Support with Next Steps

It is vitally important that we have accurate records of where your child intends to continue their studies after Year 11 whether that is here at Wednesfield Academy or another provider. If your child does not have a place at a provision for September 2025, please email postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk FAO Mrs Hayward. It is important that your child has a secure destination before the examination season begins and that they have applied for the courses that they are interested in. If they need any support with this in school please direct them to their Head of House, Mrs Hayward (Assistant Headteacher) or Miss Brough (Sixth Form Co-ordinator).

Yours faithfully



Mr J Phillips
Headteacher

Remember to follow us on social media.

Facebook: <https://bit.ly/3pV9Fhm>

Twitter: <https://bit.ly/43tYvOJ>

Instagram: <https://bit.ly/30mrbEP>



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