



# St Benedict's Catholic High School

1971

Campus Whitehaven, Red Lonning, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 8UG

Head Teacher: Emma Jackson

5<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

## RE: Key Dates and Examination Information

Now that the mock exams have been completed and we approach the main examination period I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some key dates for the months ahead as we jointly prepare for the GCSE examinations next summer. The mock exams are currently being marked and moderated by school staff. Whilst staff may go through the papers with students over the next couple of weeks **the results will be given out during our "Mock Results Day" that will take place on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.**

To help students in year 11 study and prepare for their exams the school library is open each evening after school providing a quiet supervised space that students can use for study. In the run-up to the exams teachers will be offering a number of revision activities, as appropriate for the subject. Further details of these will be available in the attached booklet. Activities offered are a mixture of; afterschool lessons, on-line lessons and in class activities dependent upon the subject being studied. There are also a number of revision resources, tips and hints available on the "revision hub" accessible from the school website and via Teams.

More information regarding revision techniques, study sessions and the revision hub will be given out during a **special information evening for parents on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm** in the school theatre. Further information regarding this evening will be sent separately.

The final examination timetables have recently been confirmed. The main exam period runs from **6<sup>th</sup> May 2025 to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025**, with a break for the half term holiday between 24<sup>th</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June. Please note that there are some dates, including the 25<sup>th</sup> June, that are designated as "contingency days". These days are put in place in case the government decides there is a need for an exam to be moved. As a result any exam could end up being moved to these dates so any holidays **must not be booked in this time**. The school does not have any control over these external examination dates and **it is not possible for the school or individual students to rearrange these examinations for any reason** as they are organised for the whole country to take at the same time.

It is also important to understand **that students must attend all their exams on the dates identified**. There is no catch up or rearranging of dates allowed by the exam boards. If a student misses an exam then they will score a 0 for that part of the qualification. This is likely to lead to students gaining a much lower grade and, in some cases, not receiving a grade at all in that subject.



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There is often discussion around the idea of “study leave” when examinations take place. Here at St. Benedict's we believe that the best place for students to prepare for their exams is in their lessons with their class teachers. **As a result there will not be any study leave during the external summer examination period.** Year 11 students must attend school as normal until **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June**, when they will have finished most of their examinations. Up until this date all students will either be in examinations or their normal timetabled lessons. **There are still a small number of exams after this date** and students will be able to attend lessons in these subjects up until their final exam. Where students have completed the examinations in a particular subject before this date they will still attend these lessons but will be able to use the time to study for examinations in other subjects.

The following table summarises the key dates mentioned above

<b>Mock Results Day</b>	<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>
<b>Y11 Information Evening</b>	<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>
<b>Main Examination period begins</b>	<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>
<b>Final day of compulsory lessons / leavers assembly</b>	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>
<b>Final Exam “contingency day”</b>	<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>
<b>Exam Results</b>	<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025</b>

Yours faithfully,

Steve Bridgman  
Deputy Headteacher



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