

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you that all of Year 10 have an assessment window approaching. This starts very soon after we return from the Christmas break, **Monday 15th January 2024** and will last for 2 weeks.

There will be formal mock examinations taking place in the theatre for English, Maths, Science and Spanish. All other subjects will be running their formal assessments in their lessons.

All work will be marked and moderated and a report produced indicating the GCSE grade at which your child is currently working at and towards. GCSE grades are 9-1, with grade 9 being the highest. All students need to achieve a grade 4 in their GCSE's, especially in Maths and English, as otherwise they will have to do resits Maths and English when they leave to move on to post 16 studies in September 2025.

Your son/daughter must be constantly reviewing their learning at home. Revisiting topics they have covered this academic year and checking they have fully understood everything they have covered.

Producing a revision timetable will support them to revise whilst managing their time effectively. BBC bitesize has some good tip on creating your own revision timetable [Exam essentials: Planning your revision - BBC Bitesize](#)

Further to this we have GCSE pod, an amazing resource every child can access on any device for free! They just need their school email address to create a log in and then they have access to tens of thousands of small 3-5 minute pods (videos) covering every subject and topic. Created by professionals and teachers aimed to support your child to get the best grades possible. This platform is amazing, and your child should be on this already. Watching a few pods every day will make the difference plus they can try the mini tests to check they understand. Mrs Hayward manages GCSE pod so if you have any problems logging on do email: l.hayward@smithswood.fmat.co.uk

A timetable will be shared with your child shortly; however we would appreciate it if you could share the contents of this letter with them this week.

Any further questions, please email Mr Rose or Ms Craddock or contact us via the MCAS app.

Sincerely,



Mrs Downing
Vice Principal