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27<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to update you with regards to the on-going support for Year 11 students in the final weeks before their GCSE exams.

Following the analysis of the mock exams, teaching will now be tightly focussed on key areas for development. This, coupled with the continuation of the 'period 6' revision programme, should help your child make progress in any areas with which they may have been experiencing difficulty, whilst helping them develop confidence across the board.

You will shortly receive information about the revision programme that will operate during the Easter holiday, and I urge you to encourage your child to attend sessions in any subject where they are below their target grade. (Their preference will probably be to attend sessions in subjects they like, rather than the sessions that will actually be of most benefit!).

In order to better support students in the run-up to the exams, this year, timetabled lessons will continue until Friday June 16<sup>th</sup>. We will still operate a fancy-dress 'last day' on Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>, but students will need to return the following Monday, wearing the correct school uniform, where lessons will continue to run.

Of course, lessons will be missed when your child has to attend an exam and, if your child has an exam in the afternoon, they will not be expected to study a different subject in the morning; they will need to attend their timetabled lesson, but will be allowed to revise for their pending exam. Once a subject's exam has been sat, then students will still need to attend these lessons, but they will become supervised revision sessions.

This 'butterfly' of improvement is intended to better support your child; to maximise their chances of success. The majority of exams are over by June 16<sup>th</sup>, but lessons will still run in subjects where there are still exams (for example, Separate Sciences and Design Technology) from Monday June 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. A study room will be available during this time in the event that your child has free time, but wants to stay in school to revise. Finally, can I please ask for your support in encouraging your child to strive for 100% attendance in the remaining time they have to prepare for their GCSEs. There is a direct correlation between high attendance and exam success, so let's go for a final push!

If you have any questions regarding the support available for your child in this final stage of their GCSE preparation please do contact Mr Feldwick ([mfeldwick@saltashcloud.net](mailto:mfeldwick@saltashcloud.net)), as he so often reminds us: to fail to prepare is to prepare to fail!

With all good wishes for the upcoming exams,

Ms K.Littledyke  
Headteacher

