



March 2025

Dear parent/carer

As you will be aware, the external exam period will soon be upon us and all Year 11 students will be involved in external exams. For some students, this period will mark the culmination of their education with us before they head off on other pathways, and for all students, these examinations mark the end of their compulsory education. As such, it is crucial for all students to be prepared and to feel supported during this intense and important period of their lives.

External examinations will commence on Thursday 8th May and students will be expected to remain in school until the end of that day. From this time on, students will study and revise at home in preparation for the exams and attend school for their exams, in plenty of time in advance of the times set out in their exam timetable. Students attending school, either for pre-arranged revision sessions or for examinations must attend in full uniform. For morning exams, students should be on site at 8:30am at the latest and for afternoon exams, students should be on site for 12:30pm.

Students' exam timetable will follow via email for students by Friday 4th April; students should soon receive their statement of entry which details dates of their examinations. If students have any queries regarding tiers or exam entries, they must contact their teacher in the first instance by **Friday 21st March** at the latest.

Following the completion of examinations, results will be available for students to collect from school, from 8:30am on Thursday 21st August. Results will also follow by email for those students not able to attend school. This day will also serve as the school's Sixth Form enrolment day where key staff will be available to support students with their post Key Stage Four pathways. Any student who is hoping to attend Whitchurch High School's Sixth Form but is unable to attend on this day should contact Sixth Form admissions at Sixthform-admissions@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk before the end of term in July. Further details about Sixth Form enrolment will be sent to all parents / carers and students in the summer term.

As parents and carers, we are aware that you will be keen to support your child during this crucial period of their education. I have attached the information provided by Mr Horgan during the Year 11 Parental Engagement Evening, which contains many useful resources to enable you to best support your child at this time. A structured revision plan, including addressing subjects little and often, coupled with healthy sleeping and eating habits will promote success for your child over the next few months.

We would also like to remind you about GCSEPod, an online resource that the school subscribes to. Students and parents regularly feedback that this is an invaluable support to them in their revision so please encourage your child to sign up and take a look at what it can offer them. If your child has already activated their account but can't remember their username and password, please ask them to contact a member of staff.



1. Go to www.gcsepod.com and click “**Login**” in the top right-hand corner
2. Click “**New to GCSEPod? Get started.**”
3. Select “**Student**”
4. Enter your child’s **name, date of birth and the school name.**
5. Create a **username, password, and a password hint** to help them remember the password.

For more ways to support your child using GCSEPod, please visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where you’ll find lots more information, a specially created Parent Toolkit with information on making the most of your child’s subscription and links to their fantastic upcoming parent/carer webinars: <https://www.gcsepod.com/podup-presents-parent-webinars/> If you have any questions regarding GCSEPod please contact Mrs Emma Aston (astone@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk) who is leading on GCSEPod.

Please also see the overall assessment and subject information on the school website: [SubjectAssessmentY11.pdf](#)

Please also be aware that the school should be a first port of call for all parents if there is anything you are unsure of or feel you or your child need support with at this time. Please get in contact with Mr Horgan, Ms Hollings, or myself if there are any concerns or queries.

Yours sincerely,

Ms L Sharpe

Assistant Headteacher: Assessment, Progress and Skills