



# Willow Bank School

*'Better Together'*

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Dear Parents/Carers

The next few months are important for Year 11, with the preparations leading up to the exam season and the sitting of exams. This is an update on how Willow Bank School will be working with your child at this time and ways in which you can support at home.

## Revision Materials

We will be launching 'revision' in assembly on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, which is 8 school weeks before the exams start in earnest. Students will be given a

- CGP Study Skills & Revision Planner
- planner and
- 8-week subject plan.

Research shows that students who start to revise early will develop better habits, are more able to build their knowledge and do better. Our three documents are provided as a starting point.

The **CGP Study Skills & Revision Planner** will provide guidance on how to get started with revision, look at different techniques to use and provide subject specific ideas for revision. Please take the time to look at this together, as you may be able to support your child with suggestions to help them focus and get the most out of their revision.

The **planner** is provided so that students can map out their revision plan. You can support the revision programme by devising a timetable that works for your family and then helping your child to stick to it! Starting revision with just a few minutes a day is better than not starting at all. Setting a routine now will help as the exams approach. If you are not sure what to put in their planner you can use the 8-week plan to help.

The **8-week** plan will provide a suggestion of topics to revise at home each week. The teachers have chosen key topics that either complement or support the learning in lessons over these 8 weeks. Students will be able to follow this plan or may want to make their own plan depending on their own strengths and weaknesses.

## Revision Activities in School

To support revision there will be clinics available during Uplift time in the morning. Students can drop in to access further support and activities.

- Wednesday: English and Maths
- Friday: Film Studies, Health & Social Care, Science



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During the week of 11<sup>th</sup> March we will be running supported revision sessions during Personal Development. Over the week students will have the opportunity for revision sessions with English, Maths and Science, plus an option (if applicable). In addition a session will run on building a revision timetable.

The final week of term (18<sup>th</sup> March) will offer 'Active Wellbeing' sessions in Personal Development to support students' wellbeing and encourage them to find activities they enjoy for relaxation amongst their revision schedule.

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March students will collect their revision bag full of goodies to support them with their studies over the Easter holiday, as well as revision activities for each subject and **exam pack**.

#### Exams Timetable and Information

Student **exam packs** contain a statement of entry, **individual exam timetable** and key information about the JCQ regulations which must be adhered to during examinations. In the meantime, a copy of the exam timetable is available on the school website. There are also other documents there which you may find useful.



For specific enquiries about exams, contact [exams@childrenshospitalschool.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:exams@childrenshospitalschool.leicester.sch.uk) Please be aware that the school is not able to make any alterations to the official examination timetable.

#### Parents' Evening

The next Parents' Evening will be on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Final entries will be discussed along with progress and what can still be done in the final weeks remaining.

#### Attendance

Maintaining good attendance over the final few months is imperative. Being in school enables us to work with your child to cover content, complete coursework, revise and practise exam questions and techniques. Please support your child to attend and contact your child's tutor if you would like to discuss a timetable increase.

#### Well-being

Sitting exams is a stressful time for all students in all schools and this is a normal response. We will be running sessions with students on how to support well-being during exams. There are also suggestions in the revision guide. You can help your child to manage their revision and exams by ensuring that they maintain good sleep hygiene, follow a good diet and get some exercise, and have fun and relaxation. Good well-being will improve productivity when studying too.

Our students may find this a challenging time, and we will be reminding them to plan breaks after revision activities, to work in manageable chunks and helping them to recognise the progress they are making.

#### Managing attendance and stress of exams.

We will work in partnership with you to manage stress, anxiety and attendance. Students sometimes feel overwhelmed and may be tempted to avoid school. Maintaining their timetables will often help students to keep making progress with their preparations, which will hopefully prevent their anxiety growing further, so please help them to keep attending. We will be alert to well-being.

Finally, it is also useful to remember the final exam in school is 14th June 2024. This busy period will end!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Diane Davies', located below the 'Yours faithfully' text.

Diane Davies  
Deputy Headteacher / Head of Willow Bank