



Ringwood School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11 Newsletter – Autumn Term 1

I am writing to inform you of upcoming dates for Year 11. Please find below the calendar for Year 11 students for the remainder of this Autumn term, please feel free to email about any of the upcoming events, I am more than happy to answer any questions that you may have. Please ensure that you read the [added date for your diary below](#) and the [information about exams this year](#).

Autumn Term 2022

Start of term - Thursday 8th September	Year 11 HSC First Aid Training all day - Monday 7th November
Info, Exams and Revision Evening - Wednesday 21st September	Sixth Form Taster Classes - Thursday 10th November
PSHE (off timetable - P3-P4) - Thursday 22nd September	Sixth Form Information Evening - Thursday 10th November
Celebration Evening (The Barn) - Wednesday 28th September	Year 11 Full Consultation Evening - Thursday 17th November
Biology/Physics mock - Monday 3rd October Biology Mock P1-P2 and Physics Mock P3-P4	Non Uniform Day - Friday 18th November
Chemistry Mock P1-P2 - Wednesday 5th October	MFL Speaking Mock Exams - Wed 23rd Nov - Tue 29th Nov
PSHE P3-P5 - Wednesday 12th October	Inset Day (SCHOOL CLOSED) - Friday 25th November
Inset Day (SCHOOL CLOSED) - Friday 14th October	Mock Exams - Wed 30th November - Thursday 8th Dec
Careers Fair - Thursday 20th October	Carol Concert - 13th & 14th December
Half Term - Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October	Last day of Autumn term - Friday 16th December
Progress Check 1 Home - Thursday 3rd November	Christmas Holiday - Monday 19th Dec - Monday 2nd January
English Language Paper 1 Mock P1 - P2 & Maths Paper 1 Mock P3-P4 - Thursday 3rd November	

You will see from the calendar above that Year 11 have been very busy so far this year and have returned to school happy, enthusiastic and excited, ready to embrace the next 8 months! The students enjoyed their PSHE day earlier in September and focused and revised for their mocks at the beginning of October. Celebration evening was a success, with several Year 11 students receiving a reward and it was a privilege to have local Psychologist Dr Julie speak and present the certificates to the students. We ended half term with Year 11 attending the Careers Fair and thinking about their Post 16 options.

Working together with parents and carers to support your child:

We are pleased to confirm that on **Thursday 3rd of November starting at 6 pm**, we will be hosting 'Year 11 Revision Evening'. We are really pleased to be able to bring this back face to face, after two years of hosting the evening virtually.

The evening will start in The Barn together with some information and guidance from Jo Lakin, our Mental Health Lead at school, before parents have a short 15-minute session with subject specialists in each of the three core subjects - English, Maths and Science. During these sessions, we will share how teachers are preparing students in their lessons and with home learning, and also what students should be doing at home to revise, as well as resources and practical strategies, all with the aim of helping you to support your child prepare for mocks exams and then for external exams next year.

This evening is for parents and carers: all students will be receiving the same information in tutor time and from their subject teachers. In order for us to ensure there is sufficient space in the subject sessions, we ask that you use this link to book the number of seats you will require.

www.bookwhen.com/ringwoodschool

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mock exams: Wed 30th Nov – Wed 8th November

In order to enable students to be able to sit full length exams which replicate what they will be required to do in the external exams, exams in the afternoon will often go beyond the end of the school day. Exams will start at 2pm and whilst we are aiming to schedule the longest exams in the morning, afternoon exams could still be one hour and thirty minutes long. Please work with your child to ensure they have organised how they will get home after those exams. Individual timetables will be issued nearer the time of the exam week.

Information about exams this year:

Decisions from the Exams Regulator about Exams 2023:

As you may know, Ofqual, the exams regulator has made public some decisions about exams next year, which we would like to share with you.

The exams regulator has announced that nationally, results will be back to 2019 standards next summer. There is a safety net for students nationally which will be to ensure grades are not lower than they were in 2019 (even if the standards are slightly lower due to students' education being disrupted by Covid) This means that, nationally, students have the same chance of getting a grade 9 (or any other grade) as they did in 2019.

Ofqual are consulting on some small adaptations to Maths, Physics and Combined Science GCSEs, where formula sheets may be made available. As soon as the outcome of this consultation is known, we will confirm it to students. If this mitigation is confirmed, subject teachers will use these sheets with students throughout the year to ensure there is familiarity, however, our experience is that learning the formula can only ever be helpful in students' understanding and ability to use it to answer an exam question.

There will be no other mitigations for GCSE or vocational qualifications this year: students will need to learn and revise the whole syllabus – anything could be tested in the exams;

The exam boards have published a provisional summer timetable, but this is being consulted on, before it is confirmed. We will publish it once it has been confirmed.

Mental Health and awareness:

And lastly, The Mental Wellbeing of our pupils is really important to us and we take every opportunity to share this with our Pupils. Last Monday was **World Mental Health Day** and Mrs Lakin, The Mental Health First Aiders and our 6th Form Mental Health Ambassadors spent social times reminding our pupils that they have many different people available to talk to them and help them to problem solve any issues that happen in their school day.

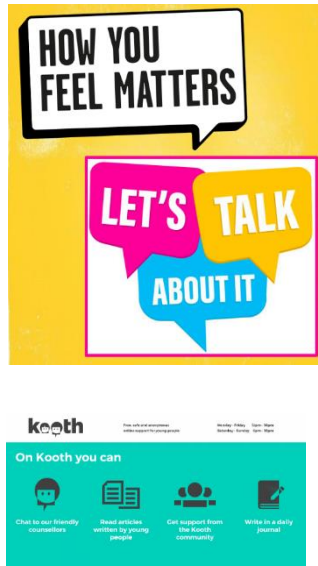
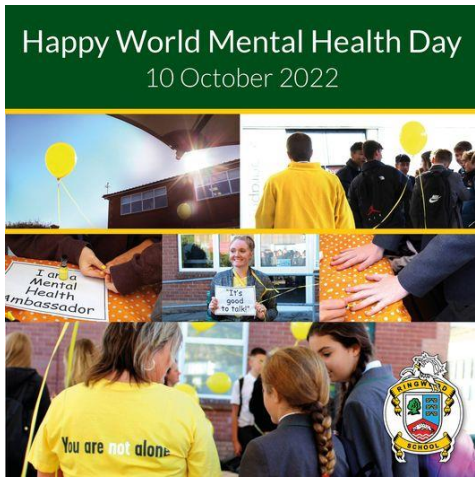
Pupils can talk to their Tutors, Head of Year, OnCall, The Safeguarding Team, Mental health Ambassadors, Peer Mentors, School Nurse, Trusted friends and Trusted websites and helplines.

If you or your pupil is experiencing a difficult time out of school hours, we highly recommend kooth.

<https://www.kooth.com/>

We also recommend Parenting support such as online workshops by local company FACE.

We value working with you to help mould our pupils into the best version of themselves that they deserve to be.



Lastly, I am mindful that the last two years have been really challenging for families and circumstances may have changed during this time. Did you know that your child could be eligible for **free school meals**? Eligibility can be checked confidentially through the Government website. Please click on this [FSM link](#) to check your eligibility. Please also check if you are eligible for the uniform grant online. Please also be aware that the school now operates a 'New to You' uniform shop, please contact reception if you would like more information regarding this.

In closing, I wanted to say thank you for your continued partnership, myself and the tutor team really appreciate it. Please do not hesitate to get in touch at all, if in need of support, my email address is at the end of this letter.

Wishing you and your families a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Kind regards,

Samantha Allsopp

Head of Year 10

Ringwood School

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