



Year 11 Golden Hour 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

This summer, GCSE exams will be taken as usual, and we want to make sure all of our students are prepared and ready to achieve their best.

To help students do this, we are extending the school day for Year 11 so that they all receive quality revision and preparation for all of their subjects. This will be from 14th March until 13th May. We are calling these additional revision lessons 'Golden Hour'.

Golden Hour will run from 3.05 to 3.55. It will be with the normal subject teacher in the normal place, unless a subject has made other arrangements, such as English, which have added an additional group to make Golden Hour class sizes smaller.

The Golden Hour Sessions will run every day after school, with the exception of Friday on Week A. It will also not run on Monday 4th April due to teachers being involved in part of the selection process of the new Headteacher after school that day. The schedule is as below, and students have been given their own personal timetable, informing them of who they are with, when and where.

Week/Day	Date	Subject	Week/Day	Date	Subject
B Monday	14th March	Science	A Monday	21st March	Block 11 A
B Tuesday	15th March	English	A Tuesday	22nd March	English
B Wednesday	16th March	Maths	A Wednesday	23rd March	Maths
B Thursday	17th March	Block 11 D	A Thursday	24th March	Block 11 C
B Friday	18th March	Block 11 B	A Friday	25th March	<i>No Session</i>
B Monday	28th March	Science	A Monday	4th April	<i>No Session</i>
B Tuesday	29th March	English	A Tuesday	5th April	English
B Wednesday	30th March	Maths	A Wednesday	6th April	Maths
B Thursday	31st March	Block 11 D	A Thursday	7th April	Block 11 C
B Friday	1st April	Block 11 B	A Friday	8th April	<i>Half Day</i>

Attendance

Attendance at these sessions is expected from all students. If students have a medical appointment or another reason for not being able to make a particular session, parents/carers can inform the school as they would do normally, and also let the teacher of your session know.

Online Tutoring

If students normally have online tutoring in Maths or English on a Tuesday or Wednesday, then they still go to that session for the weeks beginning 14th and 21st March. From the 28th March students will be in their Golden Hour session at these times instead.

Study Leave

Year 11 students will be attending school every day as normal until the end of Term 5, May 27th. They will attend revision lessons in subjects if they are not in exams. After May half-term each student will attend revision sessions

Headteacher: Mr Scott Albon BSc (Hons) PGCE MEd

Barnwood Park School St Lawrence Road Barnwood Gloucester GL4 3QU

Tel: 01452 530389 Email: admin@barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk Website: www.barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk



in the subjects in which they still have exams. They will be able to revise at home at other times. Each student will have their own personalised timetable (given to them during Term 5) for after May half term which will include their exams and scheduled revision sessions. There will also be a quiet place in school for students to revise if it is needed.

Final Exam

The final exam is on Friday 24th June. However, there is also an Exam Contingency Day on Wednesday June 29th. This is in case there is a national event which means all exams across the country are postponed on a day. (An example might be if the Queen were to die). So we would ask that you do not plan to go away until after 29th June just in case.

We know and understand that this is a stressful time for students in Year 11. The last two years have been difficult, and interrupted, and there has been uncertainty about whether exams would go ahead at times. We now know with confidence that exams will go ahead. This is good, as it allows students to show how fantastic they are.

There have been adjustments to the content of some subjects – such as English Literature, History, Geography, Art and Photography reducing content. Other subjects have had advance information about the exam content, which is on our website (<https://www.barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk/exam-information>) and allows teachers and students to focus revision effectively. Ofqual have said that grade boundaries will be kinder this year than in 2019. All of these changes have been designed to help support students following the interruptions and challenges of Covid.

Calvin Coolidge said *“Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not. Genius will not. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.”* Students tend to get the results that their hard work, effort and persistence deserve, and we are confident that the effort and hard work over the coming weeks for this cohort will get its rewards in their exam results.

We will be with the students every step of the way as they prepare for these exams, and we will help them to show the courage, determination and persistence to do well. They must seize the opportunities to make progress and be sure to put the effort in now so that they have no regrets on results day, 25th August.

The extra effort this will involve from students will get its prize in greater confidence in the exam room and improved exam outcomes. Research shows that quality expert-led revision works. But we want to recognise the effort too, so each week that a student has 100% attendance at Golden Hour sessions their name will go into a draw to **win a Prom ticket**.

Do email me if you have any questions or queries.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Fuller
Deputy Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr Scott Albon BSc (Hons) PGCE MEd

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