



Thursday, 20 October 2022

Dear Families,

Re: Year 11 Update – Autumn Half Term 1

I am writing at the end of Year 11's first half-term back at school to provide you with some key information and updates.

This letter includes details about the following:

1. Autumn Mock Exams
2. Revision Checklists and Materials
3. Key Dates
4. Sixth Form Open Evening
5. Class Charts
6. Attendance and Punctuality
7. Uniforms, Lockers and Mobile Phones
8. Safeguarding

The Year 11 cohort has had a fantastic start to the school year. The students have matured over the summer and are focused in lessons. It was fantastic to have conversations with you and your children at the recent Year 11 Parents' Evening, as the students prepare for their upcoming mock exams.

Autumn Mock Exams

The mock exams start immediately after the half term and will run from **Monday 31st October to Friday 11th November**. The mock exam timetable was sent out via email earlier this week and is also available in the Year 11 Teams folder. The link to access this is [available here](#). Your child has access to Teams via their school email address.

Most of the exams will take place in the Sports Hall. Please ensure that your child knows when their exams are, that they have eaten a healthy breakfast in the morning and arrive to school in plenty of time.

In the mornings, students will register with their tutors, who will take them down to the Sports Hall. Students are assigned specific seats and will be told beforehand where they will sit. If a student has an exam during Period 4, they should make their way to the relevant room. If a student has an exam in Periods 3 or 5, they will go to the Sports Hall via the MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area).

Revision Checklists and Materials

All revision materials and checklist can be found on Teams. The link to access these resources is here: [General](#). Please note this link will only be accessible using your child's Sydenham School log-in details.

Key Dates



- Mock Exams – Monday, 31 October to November 11th, 2022
- Year 11 SFH6 launch for Sixth Form – 7th November 2022
- Sixth Form Open Evening – 9th November 2022
- Languages Speaking Mocks – 21st – 27th November 2022
- Year 11 Russell Group Pathways Post-16 Options – 14th December 2022

Sixth Form Open Evening

We are looking forward to seeing you at our SFH6 open evening on Wednesday, 9 November. Here is the [link](#) to book your place. You will get the opportunity to meet subject staff, our students and attend a talk about our Sixth Form and how to apply. There was an assembly on Monday introducing students to the Sixth Form, the range of subjects offered and prerequisite requirements to study specific subjects.

Class Charts

Class Charts is a primary line of communication between home and school. It is useful to download the app and use Class Charts to actively monitor your child's punctuality, behaviour, and homework. Additionally, your child will be able to use the app to view their accomplishments, receive notifications of any detentions, and view when their homework is due. This is crucial in helping your child build their own independence regarding their academics.

Attendance and Punctuality

It is important that Year 11 students attend school every day and arrive on time, so they can continue to build up their knowledge for the GCSE exams next summer. Students should aim to be in school by 8:40am. Please use Class Charts to monitor your child's punctuality to school and help them get into positive habits.

Uniform, Lockers and Mobile Phones

Please ensure all students arrive to school in full school uniform worn correctly. If your child wears earrings, please ensure it is only one small pair of stud earrings in the lower ear lobe. Any additional piercings, either in the ear lobe or in the nose, are not allowed and will have to be removed before arrival to school. The same applies to false nails. Students should also only be using the Sydenham School backpack. Please see the link to our school uniform policy below:

<https://www.sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk/fs/resource-manager/view/a4c969d0-4e00-44e5-b5db-3b5bb4e7f0e1>

We appreciate uniform can be very expensive and the link below directs you to Sydenham's upcycled Uniform site: <https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/157>

It would be very helpful if you ensure all your child's items are labelled so that, if any items are mislaid, they are more likely to be returned promptly to the owner.



As mentioned in our Newsletter, the lockers are only available for students on the day they have PE to store their PE Kit. All items and padlocks should be removed from lockers at the end of the day. No other equipment should be stored in the lockers and no equipment should be left overnight.

Students were given until the end of the half-term to clear their lockers and remove any locks. During the half term break our Premises Team will be removing any remaining locks and appropriately disposing of any items that have been left behind.

If your child needs a locker for medical reasons, please speak to your child's tutor in the first instance.

Finally, please remind your child that their mobile phones must be switched off and inside bags at all times. Any phones seen on site will be confiscated.

Safeguarding

As part of our health and safety responsibilities, we are required to plan and practice for an 'emergency lockdown' scenario. This involves being prepared for a scenario in which a dangerous person/s have entered the school site with intent to harm students and/or staff. This is extremely unlikely to occur but, as a school, we have a responsibility to be prepared for this scenario.

Students and staff will be fully briefed in advance of the drill and will have the opportunity to ask questions about what will happen and voice any concerns.

If your family requires welfare or wellbeing support over half term, please refer to our safeguarding guide for a directory of services which can be found here: [Safeguarding Directory](#)

If you have a safeguarding concern about your child or any child who attends Sydenham School, please contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for the borough in which the child resides. Lewisham MASH can be contacted on 0208 314 6660 or MASHagency@lewisham.gov.uk.

If you have an urgent safeguarding concern, please contact the relevant emergency service. If you have an urgent medical problem and you're not sure what to do, go to 111.nhs.uk or call 111. If you want to contact the police, ambulance or fire brigade, dial 999 in an emergency or 101 to report a concern or a crime.

Thank you for all your support with regards to your child's education. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you to secure the very best outcomes for every student. We hope everyone has a wonderful break. We will be encouraging our staff to turn on their out of office replies on their email inboxes over the holiday.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor in the first week back.

Yours sincerely,

A Smart



SYDENHAM SCHOOL

Specialist Science and Mathematics School

Headteacher: Gloria Lowe, MA, NPQH
Dartmouth Road, London SE26 4RD
Tel: 020 8699 6731



High
Performance
Learning

Website: www.sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk
E-mail: info@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk

Ms Smart

Assistant Headteacher and Head of Year 11

a.smart@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk