

YEAR 11 UPDATE



DATE: 12th September 2025

Key dates for this term:

- 17th October—1st report goes home
- 20th October—Year 11 Achievement Evening in person at KHS, 6-7pm
- 22nd and 24th October—Maths and English 'walking talking mocks'
- 24th October—break up for half term
- 4th November—mocks start (2 weeks) and Sixth Form Opening Evening
- 28th November—teacher training day
- 2nd December—MFL mocks (3 days)
- 5th December Mock Interview Day
- 8th December Enterprise and Marketing Presentations (3 days)
- 11th December—2nd report and mock data sent home; Mock Results Day
- 19th December—break up for Christmas

Welcome!

As Year 11 is such an important year, Dr Singh (Head of Year 11) and Mrs Simpson (Head of KS4 Raising Achievement) will be sending fortnightly newsletters to keep you updated with what's going on. This will be an extended edition to start the new term and should give you all the key information you need. If you have any questions, please email Mrs Simpson on Simpson.I@stowevalley.com

Year 11 Webpage

Next week, we'll be updating the Year 11 webpage on the Kineton High School website. Key dates will be posted here as well as resources and information about Year 11. Please keep checking it regularly!

GCSE Exam Season

This still seems a very long way but it will be upon us in no time! The exam season tends to start straight after the first Bank Holiday Monday in May, so we are anticipating the written exams to start on Tuesday 5th May. Some subjects, particularly practical ones (Art, Food, Textiles, Drama and MFL) will have earlier exams.

Please note that students need to be in the country and available up to the final Wednesday in June (24th this year) for "Contingency Day". This is set by the exam boards and is used if something unforeseen happens with an exam. Taking Prom into account, please book holidays after 25th June!

Celebrations

We know it seems a long way off, but we've already started to get celebration plans in place. We still need to confirm the time and place but the Year 11 Prom is likely to be on Thursday 25th June. Like previous years, there is likely to be a 'Prom Passport' to be able to attend the Prom which will include thresholds for behaviour, attendance and House Points. We will also be organising hoodies and yearbooks in due course.

Achieving Personal Best

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Tutor Time

Year 11 tutor time is used quite differently to lower down the school. We use this time to boost students' academic performance in certain subjects and put in bespoke pastoral support for them. We have an excellent team of tutors and Heads of Department all working together to support Year 11. All form rooms have study boxes full of resources to complement their independent learning.

For the first two weeks, tutors have been setting targets with students and looking at what they need. Starting from next week, we begin our 'period 0' sessions during tutor time. Students may be chosen to work with particular teachers in this time to develop their skills in a certain subject topic. Alternatively, they may be with one of the Year 11 tutors who will be supporting them pastorally or looking at study skills and independent study. These 'period 0' blocks will run for 5 or 6 weeks and then students will have a chance to reflect and celebrate their learning.

Other Support Available

We will be providing Year 11 with as much support as we can as they move towards their GCSEs. We have an expert tutor team who will be supporting them pastorally, with Dr Singh (and Mrs Simpson where appropriate) also available. In the first instance, the best person to contact is your child's form tutor if you have any queries.

Extra support is available. We do have access to this if students are really struggling and we can look at how we can best help them. Some students struggle with their mental health during exam periods and help is always available. Websites such as Young Minds and Kooth offer excellent support and advice; please also check in with your child's form tutor if you have concerns.

We have our Home Learning Hive study club in the Library every Tues/Weds/Thurs where students can study independently. In due course, we will be running after school study sessions. Students also have free access to plenty of GCSE resources in their form rooms.

Class teachers are experts in their subjects and will tell students what they need to do to be successful. Please encourage your child to take their advice!

How You Can Help Your Child

Prioritising your child's mental and physical health is important. Do encourage them to keep physically active and reflecting on their mental health. Encouraging open and honest conversations at home about how they are feeling can really help. Please remember that we will support in school as best we can.

The KHS website has a wealth of information including the Year 11 website, the Science of Learning webpage and Sixth Form information. It's not too early to be thinking about post-16 options and planning some long-term goals!

Ensure that your child has, wherever possible, a quiet place to study with a desk and resources. We can help with resources if necessary. Students will be expected to become increasingly independent in their study in Year 11 which will include home learning.

Do attend as many school-based events as you can, particularly the achievement evenings and parents' evening.

Most of all, your child will need your support and encouragement this year. It's a tough year for them and this can often mean it's a tough year for parents, too. Keep reminding them they will get through... as will you!

Achieving Personal Best