

Dear Parent and Carers

11 February 2026

As we move decisively into the final months of Year 11, I am writing to share some important dates and key information. The examination period is now very much upon us — indeed, for students studying Food, practical assessments have already begun. The weeks ahead will pass quickly, and it is vital that students now adopt a structured, focused revision plan, supported closely at home.

Below are the key dates for your diary:

- **10th February:** Pomodoro Revision begins (weekly, Tuesdays, 3:15–4:30pm in the library – see details below)
- **18th/19th March:** Practical exams begin
- **27th March:** Dress Up Day (students may attend in uniform or appropriate fancy dress; this is not a non-uniform day)
- **7th May:** First written examination
- **2nd June:** Start of Exam Masterclasses (during normal school hours with an adjusted timetable)
- **5th June:** Final day in school and Leavers' Assembly (English exam in the morning; celebration assembly, shirt signing and ice cream to follow. Students finish at 12:45pm and must be off-site by 1:00pm. Provision will be available after this date for students who wish to revise in school.)
- **15th June:** Final written examination
- **24th June:** National Exam Contingency Day (students must remain available)
- **26th June:** Prom at AFC Sudbury (6:30–10:00pm; further details to follow via ParentPay)
- **Thursday 20th August:** GCSE Results Day (9:00am collection from HeartSpace; specific arrangements apply if collecting on behalf of a student or requesting results by email)

We will shortly be issuing the full examination timetable via email to both students and parents, with paper copies distributed closer to the time. Once this is received, I strongly encourage families to sit down together and map out a clear, balanced revision schedule. Students who plan their time carefully now will feel significantly more confident and in control as exams begin.

The Importance of Structured Revision

Success in these final months is rarely about last-minute cramming. It is about consistency, routine and sustained focus. Students need:

- A quiet, structured space for study
- A clear revision timetable
- Regular breaks and healthy routines
- Encouragement and accountability from home



Your support makes an enormous difference. Simple actions — checking revision plans, discussing what has been revised, limiting distractions, and celebrating small milestones — all contribute powerfully to success.

Pomodoro Revision Sessions

To support students in developing strong revision habits, we are offering weekly **Pomodoro Revision** sessions in the library on Tuesdays from 3:15–4:30pm, led by members of the Senior Leadership Team.

While we appreciate that not all students can attend due to other commitments or subject-specific sessions, we strongly recommend attendance wherever possible.

The Pomodoro Technique is a well-researched and highly effective revision strategy. It is entirely book-and-paper based and avoids the distractions of technology.

The method is simple:

1. Work with full focus on a single task for 25 minutes.
2. Record what has been completed and take a 5-minute break.
3. Repeat, taking slightly longer breaks after each session (10 minutes, then 15 minutes, etc.).

In school, we will provide tea and biscuits during breaks, and we encourage a similar system of small rewards at home. Students should arrive with the resources they need and a clear plan for each 25-minute session.

We recommend this approach because it:

- Builds consistency and routine
- Prevents burnout (research shows concentration peaks at around 25 minutes)
- Breaks large tasks into manageable steps
- Reduces procrastination
- Minimises digital distractions

We strongly encourage students to use this method at home as well as in school.

These next few months are significant — but they are also an opportunity. With careful planning, sustained effort and strong support from home and school working together, our students are more than capable of achieving outcomes of which they can be truly proud.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With very best wishes

Mrs Kelly
Headteacher

Mr Sims
Assistant Headteacher and Raising Standards Lead for Y11

