



# ARCHBISHOP ILSLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Let Your Light Shine"

Victoria Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham, B27 7XY

**Tel:** 0121 706 4200

**Email:** enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk

**Website:** www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Ciaran Clinton



Wednesday 7th May

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 11 pupils

## **Plans for Year 11 during their final GCSE exams**

Firstly, may we congratulate Year 11 pupils on their exemplary behaviour and conduct as they prepare to commence the GCSE exam season.

The exam period can be a stressful time. You may find the following websites useful when offering support to your child:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/help-your-child-beat-exam-stress/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students>

[https://www.studentminds.org.uk/examstress.html?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.studentminds.org.uk/examstress.html?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

This letter outlines the arrangements for Year 11 pupils throughout the GCSE examinations and when they need to be in school as well as other important information.

## **Friday 9th May – Exam information assembly in the Main Hall & Celebration Mass at Holy Souls Church**

Assembly will take place in the hall at 8:45am delivered by Miss Brady and Mr McDonald. It is crucial all pupils are on time on this day as it will be the final opportunity to come together as a year group and provide information about exams, protocols and what pupils should expect.

The Celebration Mass will take place at 12:45pm for Year 11 and 13 pupils. We are grateful to Fr Toby who will be leading the service and allowing our pupils to come together to pray and reflect, seek guidance and support during this inevitable stressful period.

## **Monday 12th May**

Exams commence from Monday 12th May. All pupils must arrive in school at **8:40am** and line for 8:45am to enter the exam. A free breakfast will be provided from 8:00am in the canteen every morning throughout the duration of the exams. For afternoon exams, pupils will have an early lunch and must be lined up at **12:45pm**. Prior to study leave, pupils must be in their exam or in their lessons.

## **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Shirt signing period 5**

Pupils have an English Language examination in the morning. They will then have the opportunity to sign each other's shirts and enjoy an assembly celebrating their time at Archbishop Ilsley. The signing of shirts will not be allowed at any other time. Pupils must bring in a spare shirt specifically for others to sign.



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### **Wednesday 4th June - Study leave**

Study leave will commence on Wednesday 4th June; no pupils will be granted study leave before then. All pupils must be in each day up to this point. As a reminder, all pupils must wear their full school uniform when on site and arrive in plenty of time. If a pupil is attending a booster, they must arrive promptly via the Victoria Road entrance where they will be met and escorted to their classroom. Pupils who have two exams in a day must remain on site for the day.

### **Welcome to Sixth Form Step Up Days and Masterclass sessions - Monday 23rd June and Tuesday 24th June**

- Our Sixth Form Step Up Days are on Monday 23rd June and Tuesday 24th June. On these days, pupils will be given a wealth of information about our Sixth Form. They will also learn about how to be a post 16 student and what is expected of them over the course of their two years with us. Pupils will also meet the Sixth Form team and sample a range of lessons
- Full attendance is required on these days. The day will start at 9.00am and finish at approximately 3.00pm on Monday and 1pm on Tuesday.
- Pupils can wear their own clothes on both days.
- **Pupils are asked to remember to be dressed appropriately**

### **The Prom – Wednesday 25th June - The Village Hotel**

We are delighted to announce that the Archbishop Ilsley Prom to celebrate the end of Year 11 is on Wednesday 25th June at The Village Hotel Shirley (B90 4JG). Dress for this special event will be formal and the cost will be £35.00, payable via Parentmail, to include a buffet meal and a disco. Pupils may arrive at The Village from 6:30pm when there will be an opportunity to take photographs outside for pupils only. The event will start at 6:45pm, the buffet will open at 7:30pm and the evening will finish at 10:30pm. There will also be an opportunity for students to take photos in the photo booth we have booked, which always proves very popular.

Parents/carers will need to arrange for their child's safe journey to and from the venue. Please ensure that you collect your child promptly. If your child would like to attend this occasion, we require the full payment to enable us to confirm the booking.

### **Payment must be made via Parentmail by Friday 6th June 2024.**

It is important that all pupils, parents and carers are aware of the following parameters and that they are followed. This will allow all pupils and staff to enjoy their evening and for it to be a fitting and memorable end to a highly successful five years:

1. Alcohol will not be available at the venue. In the interests of all those attending, any student found to be in the possession of, or under the influence of, alcohol will not be admitted to the event. Searches will be conducted upon entry.
2. Vaping and smoking are also not permitted.
3. We do not recommend that pupils bring high value items such as cameras. If they choose to do so, it will be at their own risk.



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4. To ensure the vehicles have space to turn once dropping pupils off and to avoid large numbers crowding around the entrance, the venue asks that parents take photos of their son/daughters before they leave home. There will be an opportunity to take pictures of your child as they arrive, each car takes its turn to drop guests off by the door quick photos can be taken then the procession moves on for the next car to drop off.
5. Please note there is a bar where pupils can purchase soft drinks and water will be provided.

We hope this will not cause any inconvenience and trust that parents will cooperate with the guidelines issued by the venue. We are really looking forward to seeing many of our pupils at what promises to be a memorable evening and that they can complete the year in the traditional, celebratory way.

Please refer to this letter and ensure your child makes a record of these arrangements too. **On the final page**, you will find a summary of dates for exams as well as the timings of booster sessions after half term.

### Thursday 21st August

- Results Day – results available from 9:00am
- Collection of results and enrolment to Sixth Form will take place in the Main Hall on results day. Enrolment will give your child the opportunity to **confirm their choice of subjects in light of results and to formally register at Archbishop Ilesley Sixth Form.**
- Staff will be on hand to support pupils with enrolling onto their Sixth Form courses as well as giving advice if results are not quite what was expected.
- Changes to courses at this point are subject to availability and can only be decided after the enrolment has been completed.
- Course changes after this enrolment are only possible in exceptional circumstances and pupils should ensure that they have researched all their options fully so that they make an informed choice.
- Please notify us if pupils cannot attend the welcome to Sixth Form days or Enrolment as these are key requirements for being a member of the Sixth Form.

A reminder that admission to Year 12 is subject to students meeting the following minimum entry requirements:

1. Achieving 5 Grade 5s **including GCSE English Language and GCSE Mathematics.** Achieving a Grade 5 in English Language is a very good indicator for success; those students who have a 5 in English Language are far more likely to be successful and achieve good grades in Level 3 courses than those students with a Grade 4 in English Language.
2. Students **must also meet the specific entry requirements for each individual subject** that they opt for i.e. Maths A Level requires students to have achieved a Grade 7 + in GCSE Mathematics. We may in exceptional circumstances, accept a 'high' grade 6. To study A Level Physics students are required to have Grade 7 in GCSE Physics and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics. **Anything below these grades will not be accepted**



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We are very proud of our positive, happy and successful Sixth Form community, which has at its heart, a commitment to learning and within which everyone is valued and respected and look forward to welcoming our new Year 12!

Please note in the event of a national or local incident that may bring disruption to examinations, the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) schedules contingency days when examinations may be conducted. These are the 11th June and 25th June. Pupil must be available for these days even though they do not have an exam

If you have the MCAS app on your phone, you will see the dates and times of all the examinations for your child. This can be found via the 'Exam' tab.

Thank you for all your support, not just during this examination period, but also for the duration of time your child has spent at Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School. We look forward to some very positive results on GCSE results day on Thursday 21st August at 9:00am. Enrolment for our Sixth Form will also take place on this day.

Yours faithfully

Mr Clinton  
Head Teacher

Miss Brady  
Head of Year 11

Mr McDonald  
Assistant Head Teacher

\*Exam Timetable and Booster Classes Overleaf



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	Morning Exam	Afternoon Exam	
Mon 2nd June	Italian/Urdu		
Tues 3rd June	Russian/Arabic/Polish		
Weds 4th June	Mathematics Paper 2 (1hr30)	RS Paper 3 (1hr30)	Last full year 11 day History Booster after the RS exam
Thurs 5th June	History Paper 2 (1hr50)	French W (1hr15/1hr)	French Booster Period 3
Fri 6th June	English Language Paper 2 (1hr45)	Geography Paper 2 (1hr30)	Geography Booster Period 3
Mon 9th June	Biology Paper 2 (1hr15/1hr45)	Cre iMedia (1hr30)/Italian	iMedia Booster Period 3
Tues 10th June	Spanish L/R (1hr20/1hr45)	History Paper 3 (1hr30)	History Booster Period 3 Mathematics Booster after History Exam
Weds 11th June	Mathematics Paper 3 (1hr30)		Geography Booster Period 2
Thurs 12th June	Geography Paper 3 (1hr30)	Hosp & Catering (1hr20)/Russian	Hosp & Catering Booster Period 3
Fri 13th June	Chemistry Paper 2 (1hr15/1hr45)	NCFE iMedia (1hr30)/Polish	
Mon 16th June	Physics Paper 2 (1hr15/1hr45)	Music (1hr30)	Music Booster Period 3
Tues 17th June	Spanish W (1hr15/1hr)		
Weds 18th June	Design & Technology (2hrs)		