



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 6th May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 11 pupils

Plans for Year 11 during their GCSE exams

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.

Monday 11th May

Exams commence from Monday 11th 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. Click [here](#) to be directed to a copy of the exam timetable. If you have the MCAS app, you will also have access to your child's exam timetable there.

Friday 22nd May – Celebration Mass at Holy Souls Church, year group celebration and shirt signing

There is no exam on this day. As a year group, we will have our Celebration Mass at Holy Souls Church. This will be a beautiful opportunity to pray and reflect at this important time. We are grateful to Fr. Toby for his support and generosity in celebrating this with us.

The arrangements for this day are:

- Pupils arrive at Holy Souls Church (meeting in the car park on Warwick Road) at 10.15am and may attend in non-uniform
- After mass, pupils will be escorted to the school hall for their final assembly lead by Mr Francioso
- Pupils are invited to sign shirts as a memento. They must bring in a spare shirt for others to sign. The signing of shirts in school will not be allowed at any other time.

Thursday 4th June - Study leave commences

Study leave will commence on Thursday 4th June. Pupils should 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 any revision booster classes (timetable on the back page), they must arrive promptly via the Victoria Road entrance, where they must go to their classroom. Pupils who have two exams in a day must remain on site for the day.

Please note in the event of a national or local incident that may bring disruption to examinations, the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) schedules a contingency day when examinations may be conducted. This is Wednesday 24th June. Your child must be available for this day even though they do not have an exam.



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Monday 29th June and Tuesday 30th June - Welcome to Sixth Form Step Up Days and Masterclass sessions

- 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 pupil 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

Wednesday 1st July - The Prom at The Village Hotel

We are delighted to announce that the Archbishop Ilsley Prom to celebrate the end of Year 11 will be on this date at The Village Hotel Shirley (B90 4JG). Dress for this special event will be formal, and the cost will be £35.00, payable via Parent mail no later than Friday 5th June 2026, to include a buffet meal and a disco.

Pupils may arrive at The Village Hotel from 6:30pm when there will be an opportunity to take photographs outside. 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 pupils to take photos in the photo booth we have booked, which always proves extremely 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.

Please note that your child's invite to the Prom is only valid if:

- **They sit every exam which appears on their timetable.**
- **They arrive at the appropriate start time for each exam**
- **Their conduct when in lessons/around school as well as when sitting exams meets our expectations and those of JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications)**

School reserves the right to withdraw a pupil's invite to the prom if it deems necessary.

All pupils, parents and carers must be aware of the following expectations at the prom. 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 pupil found to have or be under the influence of alcohol will not be admitted to the event. Searches will be conducted upon entry.
2. Vaping and smoking are not permitted.



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3. 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.

4. 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.

Thursday 20th August – GCSE Results Day

- These are available from 9:00am
- Collection of results and enrolment to Sixth Form will take place in the Main Hall on this day. Enrolment will give your child the opportunity to confirm their choice of subjects in light of their 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 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 your child 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 pupils 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 particularly good indicator for success; those pupils who have a 5 in English Language are far more likely to be successful and achieve good grades in Level 3 courses than those pupils with a Grade 4 in English Language.
2. Pupils must also meet the specific entry requirements for each individual subject that they opt for i.e. Maths A Level requires pupils to have achieved a Grade 7 + in GCSE Mathematics. We may in exceptional circumstances, accept a 'high' grade 6. To study A Level Physics pupils 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 immensely 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!

Thank you for all your support, not only 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.

Yours faithfully
Mr Clinton
Head Teacher

Mr Francioso
Head of Year 11

Mr McDonald
Assistant Head Teacher

*Revision Booster Classes Timetable overleaf



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| | Morning Exam | | Afternoon Exam | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Mon 1st June | | | RS Paper 3 (1hr) | |
| Tues 2nd June | Physics Paper 1 (1hr15/1hr45) | | Media Studies Paper 2 (1hr30)/Polish L/R Urdu W / Arabic W | |
| Weds 3rd June | Mathematics Paper 2 (1hr30) | | Geography Paper 2 (1hr30) | Last full year 11 day Geography Booster Period 2 & 3 |
| Thurs 4th June | History Paper 2 (1hr50) | | French W (1hr15/1hr10) | English Booster Period 3 French Booster Periods 2 & 3 |
| Fri 5th June | English Language Paper 2 (1hr45) | | | Biology Booster 2 & 3 |
| Mon 8th June | Biology Paper 2 (1hr15/1hr45) | | Cre iMedia (1hr30) | Creative iMedia Booster 2&3 |
| Tues 9th June | Spanish L/R (1hr20/1hr45) | | History Paper 3 (1hr30) | History Booster Period 2 & 3 Mathematics Booster Period 5 |
| Weds 10th June | Mathematics Paper 3 (1hr30) | | Design & Technology (2hrs) | DT Booster Periods 2 & 3 Geography Booster after school |
| Thurs 11th June | Geography Paper 3 (1hr30) | | | |
| Fri 12th June | Chemistry Paper 2 (1hr15/1hr45) | | Hospitality & Catering (1hr20)/Polish W | Hospitality & Catering Booster Periods 2 & 3 Physics Booster Periods 2 & 3 |
| Mon 15th June | Physics Paper 2 (1hr15/1hr45) | | | Spanish Booster Period 2 & 3 |
| Tues 16th June | Spanish W (1hr15/1hr10) | | | |