



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

Dear Parent/Carer,

16th March 2026

As your child is soon to step into Year 11, we wanted to take a moment to share upcoming events and preparations that will significantly benefit their academic journey.

Mock Exams:

Mock exams will begin on Tuesday 14th April. Please find attached a copy of the mock exam timetable for the summer term.

This mock exam season will offer students a valuable opportunity to familiarise themselves with the exam format, practice time management skills, and identify areas for improvement. Encouraging your child to take these mocks seriously and to use them as a learning tool, will benefit their performance in the actual exams.

Students are expected to follow real exam rules and procedures as this will benefit them going into Year 11. See below for more information regarding exam rules and procedures:

Attendance:

Your child's attendance to these examinations is **compulsory**. Attendance to school is always important – evidence shows that those who attend best, will achieve the best grades. Students need to be in school to access the support available. It is also important that **your child arrives to school on time** as some exams start at 8:50. If your child is absent on the day of an exam you must:

1. Follow the ODA Absence Reporting Procedure – details can be found here: [Ormiston Denes Academy - Attendance](#)
2. A member of the Year 10 team will then follow up with a phone call

Please be aware that students will be expected to catch up with any missed mock exams, as this helps us to begin intervention early in preparation for Year 11.

Phones:

Phones will **be collected before exams**: this is to ensure that exam conditions/rules are enforced to prevent disqualification. The phones will be stored in personalised envelopes and in a locked area. Students will be able to collect their phones after their exams are finished for the day. Students have been pre-warned about this through line up.

Other information:

- It is important that your child brings in a bag as they are not allowing to bring anything into the exam in their pockets (e.g. notes)
- Students must bring a black ball pen to every exam and any other specific equipment they may need
- No watches or smart watches are allowed

How can I support my child with their revision?

Revision is vital to academic success, particularly as students' progress towards their final assessments. Establishing effective study habits can make a significant difference in your child's confidence, well-being and performance during exams. We recommend that you support your child by encouraging them to:

- **Create a study schedule** that ensures a healthy balance between academic demands and personal wellbeing. We recommend that your child revises their subjects little and often.
- Complete their **online learning** by completing their Tassomai and Sparx which can be accessed via the Student Launchpad: <https://launchpad.ormistonden.es.co.uk/> .
- **Establish revision techniques**. Students can use the **Denes Desirables** to help them revise mind dumps, quizzing, collective memory and dual coding.
- **Speak to their teachers and ask for support.**
- Use videos to help them revise (e.g. revision videos on YouTube) as guided by their teachers.

Below is a list of the exam boards for different subjects. It is important that your child is revising from resources (e.g. BBC Bitesize or Revision Guides) that are for the correct exam board.

Subject	Exam Board
Maths	AQA
English (Language and Literature)	AQA
Science	AQA
Geography	AQA
History	Pearson
MFL (Spanish, German and French)	Pearson
RE	AQA
Catering	WJEC
Art	Pearson

How will my child be supported by school during the mock exam period?

We know how important it is to get into good habits and routines early, so we will:

- Run our exam breakfast from 8:00am in the Entrance Hall with subject teachers and raising achievement mentors. This is an important part of their preparations to ensure they are early to school; settle any last-minute nerves and ensure they have had an adequate breakfast.
- Practice exam routines – lining up, entering the hall etc – so that they are ready for the final exams.
- Students can access support via the Year Team, Senior Leadership Team, School Counsellor, Raising Achievement Mentors, and other methods.

Together, we can ensure that your child has the necessary support and resources to thrive academically and emotionally during this critical period and have the success and future they truly deserve.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to be 'L Grimmer', written in a cursive style.

Miss L Grimmer
Head of Year 10

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to be 'C Beales', written in a cursive style.

Miss C Beales
Assistant Principal - Raising Achievement