

3rd April 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the final stretch of Year 11, I wanted to write to you to ensure that your sons are fully prepared for their upcoming exams while also acknowledging and celebrating their journey at Hitchin Boys'. Please find important information below regarding revision support and key events.

Collapsed Timetable Specific Exam Revision Sessions

To support students in their exam preparation, we are running a series of targeted revision sessions over the exam period through a collapsed timetable. These sessions will focus on key topics, exam techniques, and practice questions to give students the best possible preparation. A full timetable of these sessions is attached in its basic format and the rooms and staffing will be shared with students in school.

Revision Links

We appreciate that students have a wealth of revision materials available to them online and in the classroom, so we have compiled a list of the most effective online resources to help them focus their studies. These include subject-specific websites, past paper archives, and interactive learning tools. This list is available via this link and has been shared with students on their revision classroom.

How/What to Revise

Many students feel overwhelmed at this stage - not because they don't know what to revise, but because they don't know where to start. Now is the time to 'get it together,' but how? We encourage students to:

- Stick to a realistic revision timetable, balancing subjects and incorporating rest breaks.
- Use active revision techniques, such as summarising notes, practicing exam questions, and teaching concepts to others.
- Prioritise weaker areas while still reinforcing strengths.
- Set small, manageable goals to build confidence and motivation.
- Our teachers and pastoral team are here to support students in structuring their revision and maintaining focus.

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

Head Teacher: Mr TE Bennett

With recognition of the above, I think it is important for students to have an initial restful break from school and revision in the Easter holidays. I would recommend three or four days of very little revision to reinitiate focus and revitalise the brain, followed by the gradual increase of little and often revision times, around their weaker areas of knowledge.

Last Day Festival/Founders Day

I recognise Mr Ajagbonna sent a letter to you last week outlining the details of both days (and promising good pastries!) so I won't go over them, however I have convened with some boys to plan what promises to be a great day to mark the leaving of such a fantastic cohort on Friday 23rd May and the Founders' Day on Friday 27th June.

Legacy Gift

A new initiative the school is launching is that each year 11 cohort leaves behind a legacy gift to contribute to the school community. This tradition will allow students to leave a lasting mark and show appreciation for their time at Hitchin Boys'. Further information on this year's legacy project is attached and I hope this is something you will be able to support.

Leavers' Hoodies & Yearbook

Year 11 leavers' hoodies and yearbooks are now available to order. These items serve as treasured keepsakes of their school years. Orders must be placed by 11/04/2025 for Hoodies or Jackets and 20/05/2025 for Yearbooks (to be handed out on GCSE Results Day, Thursday 21st August). Orders can be made through https://shop.fizz-group.co.uk/ using our School Unique ID: 25732YR11.

I thank you for your continued support and look forward to celebrating this important stage with your son. As you will know, I have had this fine group of men under my Head of Year care since Year 8 – they were my first Year 7 cohort at Hitchin Boys' School and they have provided me with memories (and grey hairs at times!) that I will cherish forever. It has been nothing short of an honour to look after each individual boy in this year group and I wish them every success moving forward into the 'business end' of their secondary school life.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

Mr Liam Fitts

Head of Year 11