



THE BISHOP OF HEREFORD'S BLUECOAT SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr T Williams

EMB/AHW

20th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

As your child is now in year 11 there is quite a lot of important information that I would like to share with you. As you know this is a vital year for them as they prepare for their GCSEs and consider their next steps beyond Bishop's.

The first big milestone is their November mock examinations. Preparation for those mocks should be starting now. These are an important factor in school determining tiers of entry for Maths, Science and Languages (whether they will sit foundation or higher tier papers) and also a really important indicator of what work still needs to be done both for the students and their teachers, which informs future planning. There is an evening in school on 20th November at 5pm where I will go through exam information with you. Please see the list of key dates at the end of the letter.

Students need to prepare for these exams by doing past papers and learning key content from the specification. Their teachers will be working with them on how to do this and students will also bring home a revision booklet to help them plan their sessions in the coming weeks. Students will have work to do every day to prepare for their GCSE exams. We advise regular bitesize amounts of revision to ensure their knowledge is building up over time and not all left until the last minute. Please ensure they have somewhere at home where they can work without distractions and talk to them about what work needs to be completed. They also need to gain enough sleep to be effective in school.

Please do make regular contact with your child's teachers throughout the year– their email addresses can be found here [The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School - Teaching Staff Emails \(bhbs.hereford.sch.uk\)](mailto:head@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk)

Last week, students received an assembly explaining to them the importance of exam preparation and trying their best during this year as NEA (Non-Examined Assessments) deadlines and examinations approach.

A high level of attendance and punctuality in school and lessons is absolutely vital. Your child needs to be in all their lessons to ensure key learning is not missed. We cannot stress enough to you the importance of this year.

We have a programme of revision planned, a five-week run up to the mock exams, these run after school. I have attached the revision plan to this letter and it can also be found on our school website at [The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School - School Clubs & Revision Sessions](http://www.bhbs.hereford.sch.uk). Sessions will run from October 13th until the mock exams begin on Monday November the 24th. I will be sending students a link via e mail for them to sign up for the five weeks for English, Maths and Science, student sign up will help with our planning. There is a full programme of revision, and we would very much like students to commit to the five weeks to help their preparation. Please do help them to prioritise attendance at

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these sessions. You will see there are also 'teams' online revision sessions which students can access alongside our core subjects offer.

We will also be working with students during the year in helping them to apply for college places and have a series of assembly sessions on their next steps as well as college taster days and visits from other post 16 providers.

Ours Careers Fair is on Thursday the 16th of October at 5pm which is always well supported. I have also included at the end of the letter upcoming open dates for local colleges. It is a good idea for students to visit providers with you as they begin applications for next year.

We really appreciate your support with helping your child to be as prepared as they can be for the year ahead.

Your sincerely



Ellie Bunston
Deputy Headteacher

In case you wish to purchase revision guides or cards, the examinations boards that we use are as follows:

Pearson for Maths, Science and PE, French and Spanish

[Past papers](#) | [Past exam papers](#) | [Pearson qualifications](#)

AQA for Geography, History, English Literature and Language, Food, DT, Drama, Further Maths, RS, Business Studies

[AQA](#) | [Find past papers and mark schemes](#)

WJEC for Music

[WJEC Past Papers](#)

OCR – Computer Science, Sports Studies, IMedia and Health and Social Care

[Past papers materials finder - OCR](#)

Revision guides are available to purchase in our school shop and details can be found on our web site.

Key Dates

Thursday 16th October – Careers Fair 5pm

Wednesday 20th November – Exam Information Evening 5pm.

Monday 24th November to Friday 5th December - Year 11 Written Mock Exams

Thursday 22nd January 2026 - Consultation Evening -online booking to follow.

Revision Schedule from October 13th until the mocks start on November 24th.

DAY/TIME	Subject	Venue
Monday 3.20-4pm	Maths - all Foundation tier students	Canteen
Monday 3.20-4pm	English -for all Higher tier Maths students	English rooms
Monday 4.30-5.15pm	RS Short Course	Teams – recorded to access as needed.
Monday 5-6pm	History	Teams – recorded to access as needed
Monday 3.30-4.30pm	Technology and Art NEA catch ups by invite (pre agreed with Eng/Maths TER/JAW)	
Tuesday 3.30-4.30pm	Technology NEA catch ups.	DT rooms
Tuesday 3.20-4pm	GCSE PE Revision	Hub 1
Wednesday 3.20-4pm	Maths - all Higher tier students	Canteen
	English -for all Foundation tier Maths students	English rooms
Wednesday 5-5.45pm	RS Full Course	Teams - recorded to access as needed.
Wednesday 5pm	Geography	Teams - recorded to access as needed.
Wednesday 3.30-4.30 pm	Technology and Art NEA catch ups by invite (pre agreed with Eng/Maths TER/JAW)	DT and Art rooms
Thursday 3.20-4pm	Science	Science Labs
Thursday 5-6pm	Business Studies	Teams - recorded to access as needed
Thursday 3.30-4.30pm	Technology NEA catch ups by invite (pre agreed with Science/TER)	
Friday 3.20-4pm	Health and Social Care Music composition NEA Geography History	RO32 revision in room 53 Room 71 Room 75 Room 76

Languages materials are available online.

Upcoming open events:

Hartpury College – Saturday 20th September, Saturday 11th October, Saturday 15th November, Saturday 13th December – Times TBC (Booking Essential)

Hereford College of Arts – Saturday 11th October 9.30am – 12.30pm

Hereford Sixth Form – Saturday 18th October 9am – 12.30pm

Herefordshire & Worcestershire Group Training – Thursday 23rd October 4pm – 6.30pm

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Herefordshire College – Saturday 8th November 10am – 12pm
Holme Lacy College – Saturday 8th November 10am – 12pm