

16 October 2024

Dear parents and carers

This year, we are introducing **SKI (Skills and Knowledge Indicators)**. Instead of traditional mock exams, students in Years 10 & 11 will sit assessments in each subject, over a two-week period. These assessments will focus on material studied in lessons and homework, giving us a clear understanding of students' knowledge and readiness for final exams.

Our first SKI Weeks for Key Stage 4 are happening from Tuesday 5 November to Friday 15 November, when we return from the half term break. We will have a normal Monday-Week-B day of lessons on Monday 4 November.

The Assessment Timetable and Exam Preparation Time

By Monday 21 October at 10am, your young person's final assessment timetable will be published on Arbor and you'll be able to see the specific assessment times for each of their subjects over the SKI period. **When your young person is not sitting an assessment, they will have Exam Preparation Time where they can choose to study at home, or they are welcome to study in school in The Observatory.** This flexibility replicates the experience they will have in their final exams, helping them to develop effective study habits and time-management skills. During these days the canteen will be open at the usual times.

Preparing for the Assessments

Teachers are sharing practical examination tips to help students prepare effectively including time management strategies, revision techniques, and advice on how to approach different types of exam questions. Students are encouraged to use their schoolbooks and class notes to revise from. **Whether they choose to study at home or use the school Observatory, the Exam Preparation Time is designed to help them manage their revision and stay focused.** We strongly recommend that you take some time to look at the SKI Weeks timetable with your young person and encourage them to plan their revision carefully. If you have any questions, please contact the Head of Year or if your query is about the content of an assessment, please contact the relevant subject teacher.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Carrington Team