

13 June 2022

Dear parents and carers,

It is with a mixture of excitement and sadness that I write to you with further details of the final week of compulsory education that our Year 11 students will have. Excitement because we are reaching the end of a 5 year journey and have some wonderful experiences to share before the end of the year but also a touch of sadness because the journey is coming to an end.

The students are currently, from Monday 13th June, following a lilac coloured timetable that includes all of their masterclasses and exams for this week. This is the first week that students have seen “self study” on their timetable and I would like to confirm with you what this means. Any period that is called “self study” is an in-school lesson with a room and a teacher allocated. The students are expected to bring their own revision materials to use in these lessons but there will be appropriate resources and activities provided if they forget. The majority of students do not have any “study leave” during this week which means that they should be in school all day, every day to access their lessons.

On Friday 17th June the students will be allocated their final week’s timetable. The colour of this timetable has not yet been decided but it will be distinct from the previous 5 weeks’ timetables. This timetable will include the term “study leave” and this means that we will be allowing students to study at home for periods of each day. This decision has been made because we did not think it was reasonable to ask students to complete 12 hours of Physics lessons in the 3 days between the Chemistry and Physics exams.

As in previous weeks, each student has an individual timetable that tells them exactly what they should be doing. If your son or daughter’s timetable goes missing then please ask for a replacement rather than looking at other students’ timetables as they may not be the same.

The following table indicates when students should be attending the academy for Physics sessions, some students may be required in the academy at other points for Further Maths masterclasses and exam - the class codes indicated below are for their science sets:

Class	Monday P4&P5	Tuesday P1&P2	Tuesday P4&P5	Weds P1&P2	Weds P4&P5
X1 + Y1	IN		IN	IN	
X2			IN	IN	
X3			IN	IN	
Y2		IN			IN
Y3		IN			IN
X4 + Y4		IN			IN

This means that on Monday 20th June all of our students, with the exception of our Separate Scientists (XI and YI), will go home after their chemistry exam. This is expected to finish at 10:15 but for some of our students they will finish it a little bit later.

We will be operating a fully staffed “self study” timetable for any student that would rather study in the academy. There will be an opportunity for these students to have both a break and a lunch as normal.

The “P1&P2” sessions start at 08:25 but we would expect students to be on site at 08:15 as they normally would be. These sessions will finish at 10:25 and students will leave at this point. There is not an opportunity for them to remain over break time. However, if they are entitled to free school meals then we can provide lunch for students to take away with them. The “P4&P5” sessions will start at 12:30 and finish at 14:30. The students will be allowed to enter through the normal student entrance from 12:15 onwards. There will not be a Year 11 lunch sitting and therefore students should have lunch before they arrive at the academy. Again, all students who are entitled to free school meals can collect a lunch from the academy restaurant on arrival.

All students are expected to wear their full school uniform throughout these revision sessions.

The final exam for most students is the Physics exam on Thursday 23rd June. This is in the morning and is due to finish between 10:15 and 10:45 depending on the exam being taken. We would like the students to have a last afternoon that they enjoy and lives long in their memories. After the exam students will be able to go to the PE department and take part in some leaving activities including shirt signing, leavers books, photo opportunities and games opportunities as well as the much anticipated leavers’ assembly.

We do not want to restrict the enjoyment of the students at this point and therefore we have some simple guidelines for them to follow in order to get the most out of their afternoon. The leavers activities are a well-earned treat but they are not a right for all students to have. These guidelines have already been discussed with students but in summary:

- Students should bring a separate shirt to be signed - not all students are comfortable having people write on their shirts whilst they are wearing them and therefore we are asking that all students use a separate shirt.
- Any student without a spare shirt will be given one by the academy - we have lots ready for this very purpose.
- Students should not walk around the academy looking for staff to sign their leavers’ books - this impacts on the learning of our other 700 students and must be avoided. All staff have been asked to visit the PE area during the morning and over lunch to see the students.
- Students are allowed to take photos and videos with their friends but we are asking that they not access social media sites whilst in the academy, live stream to friends and family outside of the academy or take pictures of staff members or students without their permission.
- Students will need to be in their full uniform in order to attend the leavers assembly in the afternoon.



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The leavers' assembly is one of the highlights of the year and students will have an opportunity to reflect on their time at the academy and share some of their memories as well as hear the thoughts of some staff members. The afternoon will finish in the traditional way with students leaving the academy at 14:35 to the sound of clapping and cheering from staff and students.

I would like to end this letter by thanking all of you for the support and love that you have shown your children throughout their time at Outwood Academy Newbold. They are a very special group of young people and will be missed when they leave us.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Southern
Head of School