

24th February 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope that you all had a restful half term; it was excellent to see so many Year 11 students attend revision sessions over the half term holiday. Our Easter revision conferences to support both Year 11 and 13 will begin on Monday 7th April and run through until Thursday 17th April. Details on what subject sessions are available and how students sign up to attend will be released after the second round of mocks are completed in early March.

Good luck to our students entering the Young Chef competition and those AIM students competing in 'Made in Somerset' on Thursday. Lots of time and energy have been spent on preparation and we are very confident our students will do well.

Mock exams

Year 11 mock exams start on Tuesday 25th February and continue through to Friday 7th March. Students have been briefed on general expectations around the exams and the need to produce their issued ID badge in accordance with national examination rules.

Students should return to normal lessons after morning exams and should be in all lessons around exams. Students may leave site early on completion of exams in the afternoon session or wait to catch buses in College Hall. Any student without a calculator for their exams should see Mr Robson during morning registration to pick one up for the exams period.

Year 13 then sit their mock exams from the week beginning 10th March. There will be no Year 13 lessons during that week.

SEND Coffee Morning

Our SEND department is hosting a coffee morning from 9.15 am to 11.15 am on Tuesday 25th February in the foyer of the Merlin; please do come to College for an informal chat with the staff in the SEND department. There is no need to book for this event.

Dyslexia Drop-in (Tuesday 4th March) 3.30-5pm

As part of our work around supporting students with Dyslexia and other linked disabilities, we are running our first themed drop-in on Tuesday 4th March in the Merlin Foyer. We will have a variety of people on hand for you to talk to including an external dyslexia specialist; our Exams Access Arrangements Officer - Mrs Kirkpatrick; our librarian Mrs Owsley and members of our SEND team. This is an informal opportunity for you to find out more about how we support students with dyslexia or dyslexic tendencies in College and to gain advice on how you can support your child at home.

Mobile free Wednesdays

We will continue to hold mobile free Wednesdays, giving students the opportunity to chat and step away from social media for a day. Thank you for your support with this initiative.

Year 9 Parents' and Options Evenings, Thursday 6th March and Thursday 13th March

Our Year 9 Parents' and Options Evenings will take place on:

- Thursday 6th March from 4pm to 7pm (for surnames A to L)
- Thursday 13th March from 4pm to 7pm (for surnames M to Z)

These evenings are a combination of traditional parents' appointments which can be booked on-line, the link will be sent later this week along with a list of the sessions for teachers to answer questions about option courses.

Attached please find a booklet with the process and range of courses available for current Year 9 students, I recommend all Year 9 read through the booklet as preparation.

<https://www.fromecollege.org/assets/Curriculum/Yr-9-to-10-Option-Choices-Booklet-v4-Dyslexia-friendly-.pdf>

Attendance Matters

We are extremely proud of the gains we have made as a College in terms of the attendance and punctuality of all of our students. Thank you to all parents for your unwavering support to achieve this. Please continue to ensure your child arrives at registration by 8.45am daily and where absence is unavoidable contact the attendance office by phone or at fccattendance@fromecollege.org.uk on every day of your child's absence. Term Time leave will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ER', with a small dot at the end of the final stroke.

Emma Reynolds

Principal