

January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 11 students

**Re: Maximising the potential of your child**

This is Year 11's final term at St Anne's. Where have the past five years gone? It is crucial that parents/carers encourage their children over the next few weeks and months. The following points are to support you in doing this and to give out some important information.

Firstly, I will begin with why GCSE grades are important. They are the key to opening up the many opportunities that are available post-16. To a large degree, they determine what **your child** can do next year, and arguably for the next 50 years of their lives. It really is that important. Equally, not doing well in their GCSEs has the real possibility of limiting what your child can do next year and beyond. GCSE results can genuinely influence the opportunities available to your child next year and in the future.

We are working hard to ensure the 'Class of 2026' achieves their 'best' grades. The following are some points that will, hopefully, help you support your child and the school so that they achieve their potential. Your child will need encouragement from you to build up their resilience over the next few months.

- **Extra Parents' Evening.** We are holding an additional Parents' Evening on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February**. This will be the final chance for you to speak directly with your child's teachers before their exams. The evening will be designed to ensure your child knows exactly what they need to focus on in the final run-up to their exams. We encourage you to attend and make the most of this opportunity to discuss your child's progress and next steps.
- **Mock exams.** All students will receive their mock exam results this Friday. I ask that you discuss these with your child to support and encourage. If your child has done well, praise and encourage. If they haven't done well, encourage and support also. They need to grow resilience and learn from mistakes and setbacks. It is not too late to make a difference!
- **Assembly.** Last week I delivered an assembly and outlined key messages for 'success'. Some of these key messages I will share with you below. These were well received by the students. Now they have to ensure they listen, and act upon, these key messages.
  - I. *Good attendance is clearly linked to achievement!*
  - II. *Students need to take responsibility for their learning!*
  - III. *Time is running out!*
  - IV. *Having the correct attitude is as important as ability!*
  - V. *Bouncing back from setbacks is necessary!*
  - VI. *There is no substitute for hard work!*

- **Intervention.** To support our children, we have devised an intervention schedule. This is shown below. Your child will know if they must attend this. I ask that parents/carers please support their attendance at this initiative. Attendance at the prom *may* be withdrawn if students fail to attend the intervention.

|               | <b>Monday</b> | <b>Tuesday</b> | <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Thursday</b> | <b>Friday</b> |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <b>Week A</b> | Maths         | Spanish        | English          | RE              | Options       |
| <b>Week B</b> | Maths         | Science        | English          | Geog/History    | Options       |

- **Attendance.** Simply put, good attendance is a pre-requisite for GCSE success. If your child is not in school, then they can't learn. At the time of writing, attendance in Year 11 since September is 89.3%. All students should be aiming for 100%. As was shared at the information evening and in other letters, school attendance has a massive impact on GCSE outcomes.
- **English and Maths mocks in February.** On **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February** all Year 11 will sit an additional mock in English and Maths. This is to measure the progress made from the December mocks and provide the students with feedback on how they can improve further. This is another excellent opportunity for them to learn from their mistakes and improve.
- **Mentoring.** Following the analysis of the mock results, a number of students have been assigned a staff mentor. This is a member of staff who has volunteered to offer extra support, motivation, and guidance. Mentors can help students with revision strategies, building confidence, and believing in their own abilities. If your child is offered the chance to take part, please encourage them to get involved and make the most of this opportunity. A positive conversation at home can help them see the value of mentoring and feel supported as they work towards their goals.
- **Key to Success [K2S] Groups.** These are form groups that offer a level of personalised support. Two of these forms focus on raising achievement in Maths (led by Ms Khan and Mr Browne), two that focus on raising achievement in English (led by Ms Cook and Miss Hitchen). Our fifth form, led by Ms Poscha, supports with Science. This intervention has proven to make a real difference to pupils' confidence and success in their final GCSE exams. It is important that your child is punctual to school to ensure they benefit from this intervention.
- **Stress.** All students will feel stressed at this time; this is natural. However, students must learn to deal with this stress. One of the best ways to deal with increased stress is to work hard now and don't let the work build up. This will increase their confidence, which will decrease their stress. We have a range of support available at school including form tutors and a proactive Head of Year. Additionally, the senior leaders are always available to support the students.
- **Careers advice.** We have a careers advisor in school each Tuesday. If students want an additional meeting following their mock results, they can ask Ms Waghorn or Mrs Simmons to arrange this. Stockport College are in school on 26<sup>th</sup> January to support with applications if needed.

- **Prom update.** This will be a great evening and is to reward and celebrate 5 great years at St Anne's. The date of the Prom is **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June** and further details will follow in due course. However, it is by invite only and is not a curriculum entitlement. Your child needs to behave and attend, and the Prom will '*look after itself*'. This message has been conveyed to both students and staff since the beginning of the academic year in September.
- **Free tickets to the Prom.** A big well done to our November winner, *Oakleigh Ashworth-Brickell*, nominated for his outstanding commitment, hard work across all subjects, enthusiastic attendance at Period 6 English, and consistently positive attitude, and to our December winner, *Ava Cowley* who was nominated for going above and beyond as a role model, supporting younger students, and putting faith into action through her contributions to Advent and Caritas initiatives. They have been rewarded with a free Prom ticket. Each month between now and the exams [May], I will award one student with a free Prom ticket.
- **Days left.** At the time of sending this letter, there are **51 school days** before the first exam that all students will sit on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Time really is of the essence.
- **Issues.** Most, if not all issues can be resolved through dialogue. If there is an issue, please contact Ms Waghorn the Head of Year or Mr Ostmeier, the senior leader who oversees Year 11. Additionally, Mrs Sutcliffe, Head of School, or myself are available to address any issues.

To conclude, your child is getting a good deal of support from the St Anne's staff, including quality teaching and high expectations. I respectfully ask that parents/carers ensure their children are **working hard at home**. This will ensure that your child achieves their potential in the forthcoming GCSE exams. In essence, my staff are focused on maximising pupils' GCSE outcomes, but we can't do it alone. Parental support and encouragement need to align with what we are doing in school.

Finally, and I speak on behalf of all the great staff here, **the class of 2026 have great potential**. I hope that the above is useful, and I pray that your children get the grades that they deserve in August!

Yours faithfully

Mr Logue  
Executive Headteacher