



Monday 28th April 2025

Dear parent/ carer,

Year 11 Update

With just eight school days to go before the first external written exam (Drama and German on 8th May), we continue to work hard with students to make final preparations. There are a whole range of practical exams taking place between now and then, including languages speaking exams, 3D Design, art and music, with the food and drama practical exams already completed. Students are doing themselves proud with their hard work and conduct.

JCQ Regulations

As we reach the external written exam season, I shared with students on Friday a PowerPoint reminding them of the rules and regulations around exams. I have shared this in their Year 11 'Teams' channel (which they can access via their school email addresses), but wanted to share with you directly, too. The rules and regulations around exams are set nationally by the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications), and set out how exams must be conducted in all schools and colleges nationwide. This presentation supplements the information shared with you by Miss Morgan, our Exams Officer both via email and on our website, earlier in the year ([Timetables and Regulations - Iceni Academy - Secondary](#)). I would be grateful if you could please discuss this with your child. I've let all of Year 11 know that I am very happy to answer any questions they may have.

GCSE Masterclasses

Once the exam season begins, we will be collapsing part of the timetable each day to run masterclasses. These masterclasses will focus on students' next exam, and will run in every available slot/ subject. There are some cases where this will not be possible, for example where all students are in an exam in the morning and therefore unable to complete a masterclass for the afternoon exam. Masterclasses will run in Period 1/ Period 2 or Period 4/ Period 5, and I will share a full schedule for these with students and with you as soon as I can. At all other times, when not in exams or masterclasses, students will attend their regularly timetabled lessons. Once the final exam has passed for each subject, that lesson will then become time for supervised, independent study. Please ensure your child has plenty of revision material with them for these lessons!

Study Leave

I also announced to students on Friday that we will be implementing study leave for all students in Year 11, with the last day of compulsory, whole-day attendance being Friday 6th June. After this date (from Monday 9th June), students need only attend the academy for their exams. The academy will remain open for all students on all dates after this, so if students would like to study in school, they would be very welcome indeed. We will also continue running masterclasses during this time, which we strongly encourage all students to attend to get that crucial last-minute revision with subject experts. We will hold a Year 11 Celebration Afternoon on Friday 13th June, and more details on this will follow.

Until Friday 6th June, it is expected that all students will continue to attend school all day, every day, in order to take advantage of their continued lessons with their subject specialist teachers, and the masterclasses they are running, too, in order to benefit students as they prepare for their exams.

Unless your child has a medical appointment (with evidence), or unless there is already an arrangement in place for your child agreed with a member of staff in the academy (for example, where they have previously attended alternative provision), all students leaving site after exams will be marked as unauthorised absences.

I would be very grateful if you could please complete the form linked below to let us know your child's intentions with regards to this period of study leave. <https://forms.office.com/e/TLpVxzYrxZ>
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours faithfully,

A. Staniforth.

Miss A Staniforth
Vice Principal

