



Sir Harry Smith

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SUCCESS & ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

TC/CR

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Dear Parent

We know that the run up to GCSE exams can be a very busy and challenging time for both students and parents/carers, and we know that many parents/carers like guidance on how to help out as much as possible.

We would like to say that helping out students in any way is welcome. Research shows that students whose parents/carers take an active interest in their studies and revision do better than those where parents/carers don't.

Many parents/carers worry that they will not be able to help out, or understand the courses that their son or daughter are doing, but rest assured, you do not have to be an expert at all to help out in many of the ways we suggest. Just by giving support, showing a real interest and constant encouragement to your child, you can have a huge effect in motivating them to do well, even if they don't always show their appreciation.

In school, your child has already received a revision timetable to use, a guide on this and how to budget time, a revision hints and tips guide, an exam pack with a clear pencil case and materials to use in exams, and for revision, along with lessons, assemblies and tutor times going through how to revise and prepare for exams. They also have a target card which, if they meet the targets on the card, will allow them to have a choice of a free prom ticket, year book or hoodie. Copies of the revision hints and tips guide along with recent assemblies can be found on the website under the Curriculum section then GCSE Revision Guidance.

Recently Year 12 students gave an assembly to Year 11 saying what they wished they had known last year and giving advice on how to prepare for their GCSE examinations.

Parents/carers, however, remain an incredibly important driving force in ensuring students complete revision and achieve well in their exams.

Attached is our fact sheet giving what we consider to be the top ten tips on how parents can help students with their GCSE revision, and we would encourage you to read and help with as many as possible. Even helping with just one or two, especially just taking an interest in when their exams are and the revision they are doing, can have major impacts upon how students perform.

We hope this fact sheet will provide helpful information, and along with wishing all the students success in their exams I would also like to thank you all for helping and supporting them in what is a very challenging time, and if there is anything further we can do to help, please let us know.

Yours sincerely

Terence Cooper
Director of Key Stage Four