

Make It Count: Academic Support and Intervention for Year 11

Dear Parents and Carers,

As your child begins their final year of secondary education, our message for Year 11 is simple: **Make It Count.** Every lesson. Every piece of homework. Every revision session. Every intervention opportunity.

The small choices students make each day will have a significant impact on their GCSE outcomes and the opportunities available to them beyond Year 11. We are ambitious for every student and are committed to providing the support, challenge and guidance needed to help them achieve their very best.

To support this, we are launching a range of academic support and intervention strategies from **Monday 21st September.** These opportunities are designed to help students' close gaps in knowledge, build confidence, develop effective study habits and maximise their academic progress throughout the year.

Period 6 Intervention (3:30pm to 4:20pm)

Period 6 Intervention provides targeted, subject-specific support led by specialist teachers. Students are identified and invited to attend based on their individual needs, allowing staff to focus on key knowledge gaps, examination skills and areas where further progress can be secured. Sessions take place from 3:30pm until 4:20pm and attendance is compulsory for students who have been selected. Details of Period 6 sessions will be available on Arbor. We ask families to support us by ensuring students attend all intervention sessions they are invited to.

Independent Study with Mr Ball (Monday to Thursday, 3:30pm to 4:20pm)

Independent Study is led by Mr Ball, Head of Year 11, and takes place in Studio 6 every Monday to Thursday from 3:30pm until 4:20pm. Students may be directed to attend by members of staff, but all Year 11 students are encouraged to make use of this quiet and well-equipped study environment and are very welcome to drop in. It provides an excellent opportunity to complete homework, revise effectively and establish positive study routines. Students can also speak with Mr Ball if they require additional guidance, support or advice during the year, including with Post 16 applications.

Basics Boosters (During Form Time)

Basics Boosters are short, sharp intervention sessions designed for students who need to catch up or make additional progress in English or Maths (The Basics). Delivered by expert teachers, these sessions focus on the core knowledge and skills that underpin success in these vital subjects. The aim is simple: to close gaps quickly, build confidence and ensure students have a strong foundation for success. Basics Boosters take place during form time, meaning students receive additional support without missing any of their timetabled lessons. The core pastoral, PSHE and RE messages are still delivered to all children.

Lunchtime Supervised Study in The Hub (Every Lunchtime)

All Year 11 students have access to The Hub every lunchtime for supervised study. This provides

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a calm and purposeful environment where students can revise independently or work collaboratively with friends. Students have access to resources and the support of a member of staff, helping them make productive use of their lunchtime and seek assistance when required.

How Parents and Carers Can Help

You play a vital role in your child's success. We would be grateful for your support in:

- Encouraging excellent attendance and punctuality.
- Promoting attendance at intervention and support sessions.
- Supporting regular independent study at home.
- Discussing progress and revision with your child.
- Reinforcing the importance of making the most of every learning opportunity.
- Informing us if your child does not have IT access at home.

Year 11 is a demanding but exciting year. The more students engage with the support available, the greater the impact it will have on their confidence, progress and final outcomes.

Together, we can ensure that every student is equipped to achieve their potential and move on to the next stage of education, training or employment with confidence.

Make It Count.

Yours faithfully,
Josh Connolly
Vice Principal
Milton Keynes Academy