



Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Welcome to Year 11

This letter aims to provide you with an overview of year 11 in order for you to have an understanding of the curriculum, pastoral work and key dates for the year. You will be provided with further details of any specific events nearer to the time.

Pastoral overview

Given the overarching requirements of GCSEs in year 11, the students will be focusing a large proportion of their time on applying effective revision techniques to help them achieve exam success in the summer of 2020. Our aim is to equip students with knowledge and skills that help them to manage their time and mental health during the exam period. Students will also take the time to research post 16 choices that are available. Your child's tutor will provide informed and supportive guidance and assist with any application processes.

At Nottingham Free School we have five descriptors which students are working towards; these are 'willing to learn, reflective, determined, resilient and self-motivated'. Students can demonstrate outstanding attitudes in class by being focused, paying attention at all times, producing high quality written work, setting themselves goals to achieve, not giving up and reflecting upon their work and actions in the classroom. As a year group, we will be particularly focusing on demonstrating the characteristics of 'willing to learn' and 'reflective'. These characteristics are vital when aiming to have an outstanding attitude to learning.

The following table gives a list of the year 11 pastoral team. Please make contact with your child's tutor if you have any questions or concerns that relate directly to the welfare or progress of your child. If they are unable to assist you in your query, they will pass it on to the head of year. For any general or attendance queries please continue to use the contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk email or phone the main school reception. Our office hours are Monday and Tuesday 7.30am – 5pm, Wednesday and Thursday 7.30am – 4pm and Friday 7.30 – 3pm.

Mrs K. Gray is the senior leader who oversees all pastoral work for year 11, and Mr J. Tomasevic is the senior leader linked to the curriculum and achievement of this year group.

Role	Name	Contact details
Head of Year	Miss S Cockayne	scockayne@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk
Achievement coordinator	Mrs D Machan	dmachan@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk
Tutor of 11.1	Miss L Heathcote	lheathcote@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk
Tutor of 11.2	Mrs P Barrett	pbarrett@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk
Tutor of 11.3	Mrs S Wilken/ Mrs A Williams	swilken@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk awilliams@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk
Tutor of 11.4	Mr J Takpaul	jatakpaul@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk

All students spend the first 20 minutes of each day with their tutor; the table shows the overview of the activities undertaken during this time.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Positives and Negatives Attendance Planner signing	Active tutoring	Just Maths/ Employability	Assembly	Quiz/Literacy/Current Affairs/Tune of the week

This year your child will develop their understanding of the following topics through our active tutoring programme:

- Mental Health
- Post 16 applications
- Achievement interviews
- Prom
- Assessment preparation
- Current Affairs
- Employability
- Attitude to Learning
- Literacy/Numeracy

Curriculum

Year 11 enables our pupils to revise and consolidate the knowledge and skills they have gained from across the curriculum in years 9 and 10, and to prepare for the external GCSE exams that begin at the start of the summer term. It is essential that all pupils practise applying their prior learning, and fully utilise the study sessions. Students will be directed to a focused study if they need further support in this subject, for example, an English study. Some study sessions in year 11 are silent to enable students to fully focus on their revision. Please refer to the attached year overview for a more detailed summary of the Year 11 curriculum. There are also knowledge organisers and further details available on the website.

In year 11, pupils remain in sets for English, maths and science, with other subjects being largely mixed ability. Decisions about settings and about which tier to enter students for in maths and science are made by the school by using all prior knowledge of each student's performance. All pupils are challenged and supported in equal measure so that they maximise their potential by the end of year 11.

Key Dates

The table below shows the key dates for this year group. All key dates can be seen on the school website under the information tab and further events may be added during the course of the year.

Date	Event
15 October 2019	Year 11 Ambition Nottingham Trip
06 November 2109	Post 16 open evening
07 November 2109	Applications open for post 16
21 November 2019	Year 11 Parents evening
10 December 2019	Trip to watch the Pantomime
13 December 2019	Achievement assembly
06 January 2020	Year 11 achievement interviews
13 January 2020	Post 16 application deadline
12 February 2020	Tutor Review Day
03 April 2020	Achievement assembly
11 May 2020	GCSE summer examinations begin
16 June 2020	Year 11 leaving celebration morning

We hope that you find this information useful and please do refer to the school website for further general information, the email address contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk to contact the school office or your child's tutor (as above) for individual queries.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs J. Brown
Head of School

Mrs K. Gray
Senior leader – pastoral

Mr J. Tomasevic
Senior leader

Miss S. Cockayne
Head of Year