

## Parent and Carer Newsletter 20.1.23

Please see below a summary of helpful information for this week.

### Strike Action

We appreciate that the announcement by the NEU of their intended strike action may raise questions for some parents about the provision for their children on those days. Please bear with us while we review the available staff so that we can put arrangements in place. We will send out details of in-school provision for days of union action as soon as possible; the first day of strike action is Wednesday 1st February. You will receive an email at the beginning of next week. Year 11s and 13s have mock exams on that day: these will still go ahead, therefore any Y11 or 13 students who have an exam on this day are expected to attend school for their exam(s) only. Please see the specific arrangements below for the Y11 exams on 1st February.

### Information session for Parents and Carers on Adverse Childhood Experiences

ACEs are stressful or traumatic experiences, including abuse, neglect and a range of issues such as witnessing domestic violence or growing up with substance abuse, mental illness, neglect, loss of a parent. This free online session aims to inform about what ACEs are, what their immediate effects are and how they can affect children both in the short-term and throughout their lives. You can sign up for this event here : <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/471005428917>

### Extra Curricular Clubs

We have a fantastic variety of extra curricular activities to suit pupils of all interests and abilities. All students have been made aware of the clubs this term and we've had some great participation so far. Please click here to see a list of the club [here](#)

## Key Stage 3

### Year 9 Parents' Evening: 2.2.23

The online Year 9 Parents' Evening is being held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 from 4:00pm to 7.00pm; letters were sent to parents of Y9 students on Thursday. Parents' Evening is a vital opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers, to receive specific feedback on their achievement so far and what they need to do to make further progress. Appointments can be made on school cloud immediately and will close on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Please visit <https://Glossopdale.schoolcloud.co.uk> to book your appointments and if you have any questions please contact the school office by emailing [ks3support@glossopdale.school](mailto:ks3support@glossopdale.school) and using the title Y9 Parents' Evening.

### Year 9 DofE

The expedition dates for the Year 9 Bronze DofE Award are as follows:

Practice / Training Expedition on the Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd July. Students will be in School as normal on the Friday and the expedition will start at Cold Springs Farm Campsite at 6pm. The qualifying expedition is on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th. Details about the start and finish times and exact locations will be shared with parents / carers of students who are enrolled on the Award later this term. Students will be assessed against the [20 conditions](#). In order to complete the [bronze training framework](#) we will meet the students every Tuesday at 3pm to 4pm.

## **Key Stage 4**

### **Year 11 Trial Exams**

Year 11 trial exam week commences on 23rd January. Students will be on study leave for the first week of the exam period and should only attend for their exams. Students will need to arrive each day at 10am ready for their morning exams and then all afternoon exams begin at 1pm. Students will meet and line up in the theatre. In the week commencing 30<sup>th</sup> January, students will need to attend all of their timetabled lessons and attend any remaining exams on their timetable. Please see the note above regarding the strike action on 1st February - the exam on this day will take place but the time of the afternoon session will change. A link to the Year 11 exam timetable can be found [here](#).

**Please see details below for the Y11 exams on Wednesday 1st February:**

*AM exam:* History, start time 10am.

*PM exam:* Various subjects, start time 12.30pm (please note that this has been moved slightly earlier. Students should arrive to school at 12 noon if they are not attending the History exam in the morning).

Students who were in the History exam in the morning and need to remain in school for the afternoon exam will be able to get warm food during the break between these exams. Year 11 students will be attending timetabled lessons as usual on the other days in the w/c 30th January. They must attend in full school uniform for all exams.

### **Year 11 Exam skills curriculum**

Our Year 11 Personal development sessions have focused on revision techniques and exam preparation. All students have been given a copy of the [CPG How to Revise](#) book and lessons have focused on motivation, organisation, study skills and exam techniques to name a few. The last session will take place this Friday and will cover the 'night before the exam' hints and tips. GCSE specialist teachers from Maths, English and Science have also delivered 'how to revise' sessions and provided subject specific advice to the students. This comprehensive 8 week revision programme was designed specifically for our Year 11 students to support them in the run up to their trial exams. Please ask your children about it - it will help them to make use of these skills in their exams and exam preparation.

**It is essential all students attend and complete their trial exams as the grades from the mocks could be used in the event of illness during the final exams or cancellation of exams. Thank you in anticipation of your support in reinforcing the message that these exams are important.**

### **Year 11 Prom**

The Year 11 Prom is booked for Friday 7th July 2023 at Buxton Pavillion Hotel. To be offered a place students must meet our 'Passport to the Prom' criteria. This information was shared with all year 11 at the start of the academic year and they have frequent reminders in assembly and via student bulletin. To be eligible, students must 'consistently demonstrate excellent attendance, punctuality and conduct around the school'. These criteria can be evidenced via a student's THRIVE points, their adherence to our culture and learning routines, being a role model for younger peers and abiding by our behaviour, uniform and attendance policies.

### **Year 10 and 11 Silver DofE**

Expeditions dates for Silver DofE Award are as follows:

Practice and training expedition 18th and 19th March in Hope Valley and assessed expeditions on 29th, 30th and 31st March. Both of these expeditions are a compulsory part of the Award and more details will be shared with parents /carers of the students enrolled on the Award later this term. Students will be assessed against the [20 conditions](#). In order to complete the [Silver Training Framework](#), meetings for students this term will take place every Friday at 3 to 4pm.

## **Key Stage 5**

### **Year 12 and 13 Trial Exams**

Sixth Form students will have exams in all subjects where they will have a written exam in the summer. Some of these will be public exams for vocational courses. The first exams have taken place this week and the last exam is Friday 3rd February. Most of these exams will run alongside normal timetabled 'A' Level lessons, however we have decided to allow students a short period of study leave from Monday 30th January until Wednesday 1st February inclusive. Although Year 13 Sociology students have an exam on the 2nd February, normal lessons will resume for everyone else on this day. Students will need to arrive each day at 9am ready for their morning exams and 12.45pm for their afternoon exams. All students will need to have their ID cards with them and these should be placed on their desks at the start of each exam. If students wish to have lunch at school they will be able to get this from The Heart from 12.30pm. A link to the exam timetable can be found [here](#)

### **Dates for your diary**

w/c 23rd January	Y11, 12 and 13 mock exams
Thursday 2nd February	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Thursday 16th February	Young Musician of the Year competition
Friday 17th February	School closes for Half Term London Trip
Monday 27th February	INSET day - school closed to students

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Best wishes from all at Glossopdale School and Sixth Form