Atlantic Academy Portland
an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal

Maritime House
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14th September 2026

Dear Year 11 Parent/Carer,

We hope your child has enjoyed a positive start to the new school year and is settling well into their new routines. As we begin the term, we would like to share how assessment helps us understand your child's learning, recognise their progress and identify where they may need further support or challenge. Your feedback last year has helped shape changes to our assessment approach, which we outline below, alongside key dates and information to help you support your child's learning at home.

Revision and Intervention

The revision and intervention schedule begins on **September 11th** for all subjects. Revision sessions are open to all students, while intervention sessions are targeted for individuals identified by staff as needing additional support to maximise their success in the exams. If your child is invited to attend an intervention session, please ensure they are present.

Most sessions take place after school at **3:00pm**. While students are expected to begin revising independently at home, these sessions provide valuable support for those who find independent study challenging, as well as for those who would benefit from extra guidance from staff.

We will be holding our Year 11 **Raising Achievement Evening** on **Thursday 15th October at 5:00pm**. This event is designed to provide students and parents with guidance and practical strategies as we approach the first set of mock examinations. Parental support is one of the most significant factors influencing student engagement and achievement, and your attendance will make a real difference.

The evening will include subject-specific information as well as sessions offering advice on how best to support your child in the lead-up to their exams.

Reports

Year 11 will receive two reports during the next eight months. The first will be just before Christmas following the first set of mock exams. The second report will include the outcome from Mock 2 exams and will be issued at the end of March.

Parents' Evening

There will be a subject parents' evening strategically placed after Mock 1 on 8th December 2026 and after Mock 2 on 16th March 2027 when students and parents/carers can meet with their child's subject teachers to discuss their attainment and agree on targets for improvement. Parents/carers will receive booking information and instructions nearer to the date.

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Mock Exam Dates
Mock 1 exams start on November 9th and last two weeks. When students undertake mock exams and practise different revision techniques, it removes the anxiety some students feel before the real exams, so it is best to start preparing early in the year, tutors will be supporting Year 11 with plans for revision. The second round of mock exams start on 8th February 2027

Assemblies
We hold regular assemblies exclusively for Year 11 students. These sessions are designed to provide guidance and support throughout their final year of Key Stage Four. The programme includes a series of motivational assemblies covering a range of topics, such as effective revision strategies, developing a growth mindset, and exploring post-16 pathways including apprenticeships and Level 3 opportunities.

Study Stay
Attendance for Year 11 students is compulsory until their final exam. For some this will be 18th June 2027. Attendance until this time is crucial so that students can gain from the revision sessions that focus on the most likely content for the next papers.

Holiday Revision and Intervention Sessions
During the February half term break, Easter and the May half term break there will be revision sessions arranged. Further information regarding each of the events above will be shared with you beforehand. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs K Biddle
Vice Principal