



Ark Elvin Academy

18th December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

It can at times feel unclear as a parent what you can do to help your child achieve their full potential in their GCSEs but the answer is there is a great deal you can do! The next 4 weeks are really important as they prepare for their mock exams and we wanted to share with you some simple ways you can support your child to do their very best.

Why are mock exams important?

- They help your child learn how to revise really well – and the revision they do now will help them learn the knowledge they need for the final exams in a few short months
- They help us see what topics your child needs extra support with when they are back in lessons before the real exams
- They help your child get used to the feeling of doing GCSE exam questions so that they feel less anxious about the real exams
- They give your child great practice of working in exam conditions and under time constraints

How can you support your child with their revision?

- Help your child find a quiet space to complete their work where they will not be disturbed – the whole family need to know that this is an important time and their work space needs to be protected as much as possible
- Have your child leave their mobile phone with you while they are revising – NOT all homework needs the internet – most of it does not. A phone even with music on can be a real distraction and reduces the quality of their revision. Where revision is to be completed online, this will be clear (e.g. Maths revision using Hegarty Maths)
- Ask your child to share their revision checklist with you and show you what tasks they have completed each day – celebrate each completed task
- Make sure they keep up a balanced and healthy diet and drink plenty of water while they are revising to keep them healthy and feeling good. Regular exercise really helps. Lots of gyms offer junior membership and encouraging your child to break up a day of revision with a visit to the gym or a jog round the park can really help them feel good and be more productive.

Ark Elvin Academy

Cecil Avenue Wembley Middlesex HA9 7DU

T 020 8902 6362

info@arkelvinacademy.org

arkelvinacademy.org



Ark Elvin Academy

What revision will my child be doing?

All pupils have a Christmas Holiday Homework Checklist booklet. In this booklet, teachers have given pupils the list of tasks to complete, how they should complete it and when and how it will be checked. The tasks are the revision the pupils need to complete – there is no separate homework. Pupils will work through these tasks doing a little each day.

There are two main ways the pupils revise:

- **Retrieval practice** – pupils try and recall things they have been taught e.g. a mastery quiz or through remembering what is on their flashcards. Anything they can't remember they look at, cover and try and recall it again. *You can help even if you do not know the subject by quizzing your child using the facts on their flashcards.*
- **Elaboration** – pupils ask 'why' and 'how' of things they have learnt. This may be in the form of notes on a spider diagram, or in an extended piece of writing.
- **Hegarty maths**
This is an online tool students at Ark Elvin Academy should be using every week and over the Christmas holidays. All students log in with their details (see below). Their password is made by themselves and if they forget it they should click the password reset button (underneath where they enter the password). This could take up to a few days to reset.

www.hegartymaths.com

Log on with: School: Ark Elvin Academy / First name / Last name / Date of birth / Password.

Pupils are expected to revise for at least 3 hours every day. We know that cramming at the last minute does not work. Pupils should revise consistently across the holidays – not save all the work until the last minute. Doing a set amount each day means they are continually revising, but also have plenty of free time to relax and spend time with family and friends. If they miss an hour or two one day help them catch up with extra revision the following day.

What happens in January?

When the pupils return on 8th January 2020, their teachers will check that they have completed all the revision tasks. It is therefore vitally important that pupils are committed and complete all the tasks set.

Ark Elvin Academy

Cecil Avenue Wembley Middlesex HA9 7DU

T 020 8902 6362

info@arkelvinacademy.org

arkelvinacademy.org



Ark Elvin Academy

Key dates for Year 11

What	When 2020
Year 11 first day back	Wednesday 8 th January
Full set of mock exams	Week beginning 20 th January
Mock exam catch up week	Week beginning 3 rd February
Parents Evening 2 – how to help your child succeed at GCSE	Tuesday 3 rd March 5pm
GCSE Exam series 2020	Week beginning 11 th May
GCSE Results day	Thursday 20 th August
GCSE Certificate Collection	Week beginning 9 th November

Year 11 Mock exam timetable

We will serve Year 11 breakfast in the canteen for all Y11s each day they have a mock exam. Their full timetable is below. When they are not in an exam they will be in their normal lessons.

Thank you for supporting your child through their exams. It really does make all the difference and while this time is not an easy one it does not have to be too tough if we all work as a team to help your child do their very best. Please let me know how they get on with their revision. Let us know what worked well and what they or you struggled with so that we can support in the best way in January.

And as well as all the revision I wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Very best wishes,

Rebecca Curtis
Principal
Ark Elvin Academy
E: r.curtis@arkelvinacademy.org

Ark Elvin Academy
Cecil Avenue Wembley Middlesex HA9 7DU
T 020 8902 6362
info@arkelvinacademy.org
arkelvinacademy.org



Ark Elvin Academy

Week Beginning 20th January

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Form	English Language 1	English Literature 1	Chemistry 1	Maths 2	Physics 1
P1					
P2					
Break					
P3					
P4					Spanish Reading French Reading
Lunch					
P5	Biology 1	History 1 Geography 1	Maths 1	Maths 3	Computer science 1 DT 1 Sociology 1 RE Islam PE 1 Music
P6					

Ark Elvin Academy

Cecil Avenue Wembley Middlesex HA9 7DU

T 020 8902 6362

info@arkelvinacademy.org

arkelvinacademy.org



Ark Elvin Academy

WB 27th January

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Form	Biology 2		Physics 2		
P1					
P2					
Break					
P3		Chemistry 2	Spanish Writing French Writing	Spanish Listening French Listening	
P4					
Lunch					
P5		History 2 Geography 2		History 3	Computer science 2 DT 2 Sociology 2 RE Christianity PE 2
P6					



Ark Elvin Academy

Cecil Avenue Wembley Middlesex HA9 7DU

T 020 8902 6362

info@arkelvinacademy.org

arkelvinacademy.org