



# St Benedict's Catholic High School

1971

Campus Whitehaven, Red Lonning, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 8UG

Head Teacher: Emma Jackson

29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

## RE: Key Dates and Examination Information

Now that the mock exams have been completed and we approach the main examination period I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some key dates for the months ahead as we jointly prepare for the GCSE examinations next summer. The mock exams are currently being marked and moderated by school staff. Whilst staff may go through the papers with students over the next couple of weeks **the results will be given out during our "Mock Results Day" that will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February.**

To help students in year 11 study and prepare for their exams the school library is open each evening after school providing a quiet supervised space that students can use for study. In the run-up to the exams teachers will be offering a number of revision activities, as appropriate for the subject. Further details of these will follow shortly. Activities offered are a mixture of; afterschool lessons, on-line lessons and in class activities dependent upon the subject being studied. There are also a number of revision resources, tips and hints available on the "revision hub" accessible from the school website and via Teams.

More information regarding revision techniques, study sessions and the revision hub will be given out during a **special information evening for parents on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm** in the school theatre. Further information regarding this evening will be sent separately.

The final examination timetables have recently been confirmed. The main exam period runs from **5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026**, with a break for the half term holiday between Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May. Please note that there are some dates, including the 24<sup>th</sup> June, that are designated as "contingency days". These days are put in place in case the government decides there is a need for an exam to be moved. As a result any exam could end up being moved to these dates so any holidays **must not be booked in this time**. The school does not have any control over these external examination dates and **it is not possible for the school or individual students to rearrange these examinations for any reason** as they are organised for the whole country to take at the same time.

It is also important to understand **that students must attend all their exams on the dates identified**. There is no catch up or rearranging of dates allowed by the exam boards. If a student misses an exam then they will score a 0 for that part of the qualification. This is likely to lead to students gaining a much lower grade and, in some cases, not receiving a grade at all in that subject.



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There is often discussion around the idea of “study leave” when examinations take place. Here at St. Benedict's we believe that the best place for students to prepare for their exams is in their lessons with their class teachers. **As a result there will not be any study leave during the external summer examination period.** Year 11 students **must attend school as normal until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June**, when they will have finished most of their examinations. Up until this date all students will either be in examinations or their normal timetabled lessons. **There are still a small number of exams after this date** and students will be able to attend lessons and revision sessions in these subjects up until their final exam. Further information regarding these revision sessions will be shared with you nearer the time. Where students have completed the examinations in a particular subject before this date they will still attend these lessons but will be able to use the time to study for examinations in other subjects.

The following table summarises the key dates mentioned above

Mock Results Day	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Y11 Information Evening	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Main Examination period begins	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Final day of compulsory lessons / leavers assembly	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Final Exam “contingency day”	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Exam Results	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2026

Yours faithfully,

Steve Bridgman  
Deputy Headteacher



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