

(Student Name) - (Student Form)

27 March 2026

Dear Families

As we approach the final stages of the academic year, Sackville School held an Easter assembly to outline "The Final Countdown" for our Year 11 students. We want to ensure you are fully informed of the key dates, expectations, and support systems in place as we head into the summer term.

Key Dates and Exam Schedule

The formal examination period is fast approaching, with approximately 20 school days remaining until the start of exams.

- **First exam:** Friday 01 May 2026 (Travel and Tourism)
- **Final exam:** Wednesday 17 June 2026 (Spanish)
- **Contingency day:** Wednesday 24 June 2026 (all students have to be available for this day)
- **Results day:** Thursday 20 August 2026

Revision Planning

With final examinations fast approaching, these two weeks represent a vital opportunity to consolidate learning and bridge any remaining gaps in knowledge. We recommend that students follow a structured revision timetable, focusing on active recall and past paper practice rather than passive reading.

Some top tips:

1. **Active recall:** Encourage them to use flashcards or blurring (writing everything they know on a blank sheet) rather than just highlighting notes.
2. **Look, say, cover, write, check:** You will have seen this technique when Mr Quigley demonstrated it for families earlier this year. There is a video on the [Support Hub](#) which will support you and your child if you need reminders
3. **The Pomodoro technique:** Study in 25-minute bursts followed by a 5-minute break to maintain high levels of concentration.
4. **Prioritize weak Spots:** It's tempting to revise what we already know, but the biggest gains come from tackling the "red" topics first.

While consistency is key, please do encourage your child to take scheduled breaks to recharge; a refreshed mind is far more capable of retaining complex information.

Easter Revision Program

To support students during the break, the school is offering an Easter revision program on certain days in the Easter holiday. Sessions cover a wide range of subjects including science (all tiers), maths, English Literature, and various practical and language subjects. Students must sign in at reception, and rooming will be displayed there.

Students will have been notified by their teacher if there is a session running for them and the specific times. Please do not just send students into school without having had contact from that subject.

Exam day Procedures

To ensure a calm and successful environment, please remind your child of the following:

- **Arrival times:** Students should arrive no later than 8.25am and 12.40pm ahead of any examinations
- **Start times:** Morning exams begin at **8.45 am** and afternoon exams at **1.00 pm**.
- **Equipment:** Students must bring full equipment and a clear water bottle with no labels.
- **Conduct:** Mobile phones and watches (all types) must be switched off and stored in bags. Students must wear full school uniform.

Study Leave

Study leave begins after the English exam on Thursday 21 May 2026.

Until study leave begins, students are expected in school full time, for all lessons and in full school uniform. Lessons will be focused on exam technique and final content to ensure top achievement. The expert guidance from teachers will be key in the final run in.

After this date, students should only be on-site for exams or pre-planned drop-down sessions. If arriving for a drop down session, students must sign in and out at the student entrance. If arriving for an exam students will be registered in their exam room.

In order to achieve their very best, students must attend all exams on their examinations timetable.

Please note, any failure to attend would result in an invoice being issued to the family for the examination entry and any associated fees.

Celebrations and prom

We are excited to celebrate our students' hard work through several end-of-year events:

- **Leavers assembly:** This will take place at 9:00 am in the Dining Hall (date to be confirmed following the start of study leave). Students may bring a spare shirt for signing, but **should not** wear the shirt they want signed.
- **Prom:** Scheduled for **Thursday 25 June 2026**.
- **Prom reward draw:** Students who maintain 95% attendance, attend 15 intervention sessions, and meet specific behaviour/reward point targets can enter a prize draw for rewards at the Prom. The deadline to submit prize cards is **Friday 24 April 2026**.
- **Leavers Hoodies:** The deadline for purchasing hoodies is **Friday 29 May 2026**.

For further details, including full exam timetables, please visit the school website's dedicated [exams page](#) or the [Key Stage 4 Support Hub](#).

Finally, please remind your child that while these exams are important, they are simply a platform to demonstrate the hard work they have already put in. This "final stretch" can feel daunting, but with a clear plan and a steady pace, they are more than capable of navigating it successfully. We have immense confidence in their resilience and ability, and we look forward to seeing their dedication pay off in the coming months. You've got this, Year 11!

Yours sincerely

Mr Peter Cowlin
Deputy Headteacher