

YEAR 10-11 GCSE DRIVE HOME TO SUCCESS

Issue 4: CHRISTMAS BREAK EDITION

6
NOV-DEC (Year 11)

1. Students sit second set of full mock exams to assess progress and identify priority areas for support.
2. Results inform the launch of the Whole School Intervention Plan, outlining targeted academic and pastoral support from January.
3. Intervention timetables, including small group sessions and tutoring, are shared with students and families.
4. Issue 3 - Drive Home Newsletter

A Word from Mrs. Daniels:

This term has been a significant milestone in the Year 11 journey. The mock exams provided an important opportunity for students to experience exam conditions, test their knowledge, and build the habits that drive success. Throughout this process, students demonstrated resilience, maturity and consistent engagement.

Next Wednesday 10 December, students will receive their mock grades during Head of House Hour. Alongside their grades, they will be given clear subject specific next steps created from their question level analysis. Many subjects have already provided verbal feedback and opportunities to revisit gaps and misconceptions, which has allowed students to understand where their focus needs to be as they continue their Drive Home journey.

The Drive Home strategy is built on marginal gains. Small improvements, repeated with purpose, lead to significant progress. Students now have the clarity they need to take ownership of their next steps.

WHAT STUDENTS CAN DO OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Christmas should feel restful and positive. Students need time with friends and family, time away from screens, and time to recharge. They do not need intense revision, but they will benefit from light, strategic habits that protect the progress made this term.

Revisit mock feedback

Spend fifteen minutes per subject looking through feedback, notes and any question level analysis. The purpose is to understand the errors, not to complete new papers.

Secure the essentials

Focus on key knowledge. This might include vocabulary, definitions, formulae, timelines or case studies. Short recall bursts are more effective than long study sessions.

Short practice tasks

Complete small topic checks, such as one ten minute exam style question, a five question biology recall set, a maths topic drill or a short English writing activity. This keeps learning active without overwhelming students.

Organise revision materials

Take time to tidy exercise books, organise digital work and set up a simple folder system for each subject. Organisation supports calm, focused study in January.

Reset sleep routines

Aim to gradually return to normal sleep patterns during the final days of the holiday. A consistent routine will help students feel settled and ready when term begins.

