

Dear Parent/Carer

### **GCSEPod and Year 10 revision**

The summer term for Year 10 usually signals a shift in focus, where students and subjects teachers really start to intensify preparation and support for the GCSE examinations just 12 months later.

In the current climate, the usual provision of revision support is not possible in its usual form of Parent Information Evenings, assemblies and form time. This is understandably a cause for concern for many students and their families. It is therefore important that we work together to ensure your child begins to develop these independent study and revision skills now, to put them in the strongest position possible for next year's examinations.

When we return to the Academy, the re-scheduling of the Year 10 exams will be a priority. It is so important that students have opportunity to take these exams as they provide such insight to their current understanding and can help to identify knowledge gaps. If your child is not following a structured revision strategy, it is time to start.

At this time of year, we ask you to encourage and support your child to engage in revision in any way you can. We recommend 'little and often' when it comes to revision, encouraging the students to space out their study rather than attempting last-minute cramming, which is not only stressful but far less effective in terms of retention.

Therefore, in addition to the 5 lessons that are being set for Year 10 each school day during the Academy closure, we would expect students to be spending a short amount of time on independent study each week. An example of good practice might be watching one GCSEPod each weekday and creating some flash cards to go with it- that would take about 15 minutes.

Longsands Academy has invested in GCSEPod because it is an award winning digital content and revision provider. GCSEPod provides over 6,000 3-5 minute bursts of visual learning 'Pods'. The way in which GCSEPod maps content can help revision be much more manageable as your child can see their revision displayed in a logical way. Each Pod is exam board specific, so you too can be reassured your child is only learning what they need to learn.

Your child has already been registered with GCSEPod and if they've not yet activated their account they will need to follow the instructions below. If your child has already activated but can't remember their username and password, please ask them to contact a member of staff.

- 1) Go to [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) and click "**Login**" in the top right-hand corner
- 2) Click "**New here? Get started.**"
- 3) Select "**Pupil**"
- 4) **Enter your child's name, date of birth and confirm the school name.**
- 5) Create a **username, password, and a password hint** to help you remember the password.

GCSEPod are running 3 webinars specifically for parents/carers. To book just click the link to the right of the webinar. For more info on the webinars that are running (and to view samples of the ones that have run so far) click here - <https://www.gcsepod.com/news-gcse-learning-revision/podup-presents-webinars/>

PARENT WEBINAR - Introduction to GCSEPod:

May 6th	14:30:00	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fGtZr6r4RL-zQQNMFknveQ">https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fGtZr6r4RL-zQQNMFknveQ</a>
May 13th	17:00:00	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UlwWCH1NR6mA-pv_HyZgSg">https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UlwWCH1NR6mA-pv_HyZgSg</a>
May 15th	12:30:00	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D8c9SAfqQHyW2hBHxpMV0A">https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D8c9SAfqQHyW2hBHxpMV0A</a>

Quick reminders:

- Attendees don't need a microphone. Just headphones or speakers.
- Webinars work on tablets as well as computers.
- Joining instructions will be sent via email following registration.

For more ways you can help support your child using GCSEPod, please visit [www.gcsepod.com/parents](http://www.gcsepod.com/parents) where you'll find lots more information and resources.

Yours sincerely



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