



Dear Parents / carers,

One of the main sources of stress and anxiety for our students during this final run in to GCSEs in the summer is 'how to do the exam'. As we have 14 different question types in our History papers, we've created exam practice booklets for each exam paper with lots of different topics. I am confident in saying that every possible exam question has been covered in these booklets give or take a few words. We look forward to them growing in confidence as they complete our practice booklets. As always, your support in this is greatly appreciated.

We have asked that your child completes **AT LEAST** 16 marks a fortnight to be handed in on a Friday for Mr Modica's classes and Thursday for Mrs Norton's classes. This can be any combination of the student's choosing, eg: 1 x big 16 mark essay, 2 x 8 Mark questions, 4 x 4 Mark questions etc We recommend keeping each fortnightly focus on one of the papers, ie all questions in the Medicine booklet, and then next fortnight from the Cold War booklet etc. However if they want to do a 4 marker from medicine and a 12 marker from Germany for instance, that is fine too. The booklets all have a guidance page before the practice questions for every question with model answers or structure guidance with the timings of each question. They will receive exam standard marking and feedback.

In its simplest of terms, 16 marks with appropriate prep should equate to about 1 hour or so a fortnight. Hopefully you agree that this isn't unreasonable, we will expect slightly more after Christmas to manage the workload on your child as we are aware they have 8 other subjects to be working on. We expect by now that they have created a revision timetable as discussed in Tutor Time and assembly.

The best way to do these booklets would be to first choose a question, then do 10-15 mins of revision to just secure the knowledge and then write their answers. We would also recommend they complete these questions in the time they'd have in the exam to get them used to hitting those time stamps, arguably our biggest challenge is time management.

If the students don't hand in their work on their day (as stated above), they will have a compulsory support and intervention session to assist them in completing last week's work. This will be on the following Monday or Tuesday depending on the student's other engagements.

**If they don't attend this session this will be put down as a 'failed detention' that will become a Headteacher's detention.** Obviously this is not something we want to happen, we are on hand to ensure this doesn't happen with support available whenever they need us. This activity will prove incredibly valuable in building their confidence and we know from previous years of completing these booklets will ensure maximum success this summer. Again, we are very grateful for your support in this.

Finally, just a reminder that our department website [www.stchistory.com](http://www.stchistory.com) has every single lesson from their GCSE course to assist when revising or topping up their knowledge as well as some online lessons (in the Germany section, but I am trying to do some more). As well as this on Google Classroom for each class is a section called 'one stop shop' for everything; this has revision guides, workbooks and digital text books to further support their revision. Google Classroom also has the resources for any lessons they have missed since Yr10.

**Our 'official' drop in evening for any support or questions is a Wednesday**

Thank you in advance, and if we can be of further assistance, please get in touch

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Yours sincerely

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