

# GREYFRIARS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Headteacher | Ms L Caldwell

*A Catholic School that champions every student so that they flourish individually and collectively.*

Friday 22nd November 2024

## Switch Off Week and PPEs (Pre-public examinations)

Dear families,

I am writing to inform you about some upcoming events for Year 12 and Y13 in the next few weeks.

### Switch Off Week

We will be holding our first ever Switch Off Week from 8:45am on Monday 25th November to 3:10pm on Friday 29th December. We are asking families to sponsor Y12 and Y13 to take part in switching off from social media for a week. All money raised will go to the YoungMinds Charity, supporting young people and their families with their mental health. You can find more information about YoungMinds here: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

Every pound donated will help us reach our target of £500. You can donate and read more about our challenge here: <https://bit.ly/3UNBLXV>

### PPE Exams

Our planned Switch Off Week will take place just before our first round of PPE exams. These will start on the 4th December and finish on 11th December.

These exams are an important part of Sixth Form study and give students and teachers current data on how well students are progressing through their courses and what knowledge gaps need addressing.

They are also an opportunity for students to practise and become very familiar with the routines of examinations so that this is one less thing to worry about when it is time for the real exams.



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Providing outstanding education for our children with 'The Joy of the Gospel' at its heart.

For your information:

- **Venues for the exams** are printed on the final version of the timetable (attached to this letter). Most exams will take place in the REX Room, Sixth Form Rooms or Sports Hall.
- Students will have **seating plans** and these will be displayed outside of the venue.
- Students need to be in school, ready to enter the exam room at **8:45am**. The Exams will begin promptly at 9:00am.
- Exams will be run under **JCQ exam conditions**, complying with rules about mobile phones, smart watches, water bottles, empty pockets and clear pencil cases.
- If your child is unwell on the day of their PPE exam, we will only authorise their absence if a **parent/guardian has contacted** the main school reception to report the illness and/or we have a note from a doctor.
- **If a student is absent** without a parental phone call or note from a doctor, this will be recorded as X/U grade.
- During the PPE period, **we do not require students to be in school** for tutor time or for their lessons. Lessons will resume on Wednesday 11th for most Y12 students and Thursday 12th for all Y13 students.
- Y12 students on a **Level 2 Business, Sport or Health & Social Care Eng/Maths course must attend lessons** as usual. These students will not have exams during this time.

If you have any questions about our Switch Off Week or the PPEs, please do not hesitate to contact me. We will share PPE results in your child's report in January, and shortly after this, on 6th February, we will have our Year 12 and Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening.

Kind regards,



Ms K McCabe

Head of Sixth Form