



Outwood Academy Hemsworth

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Principal: Mr James Pape

06 March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update on Year 11 Mock Examinations: A Mid-Point Review

As we reach the mid-point of the Year 11 mock examinations, I am writing to share how incredibly proud we are of our students. You should be equally proud of the outstanding effort and maturity the vast majority of them have demonstrated over the past week.

In the main, our Year 11s have been highly focused and diligent, both in their preparation leading up to these mocks and in their mature approach within the exam hall.

Maintaining Momentum

These mock exams are a crucial part of our improvement process, designed to build confidence, identify gaps in knowledge, and develop exam stamina ahead of the final GCSEs this summer. As we head into the second and final week of these mocks, it is vital that students maintain this momentum and apply the exact same dedicated approach to their remaining papers.

How You Can Support at Home

Your support at home makes a significant difference during what can be a stressful time. We ask that you continue to check in with your child daily, discussing how their day went and how they felt their exams went. Beyond talking, you can support them by ensuring they are getting plenty of sleep, eating well, and taking time to unwind in the evenings.

Our "Even Better If"

While we are proud of the current effort levels, our "even better if" would be to see students engaging in more *focused revision* in the Academy and at home. Quality is just as important as quantity when it comes to studying. Here are a few examples of how you can support focused revision:

- **Attend the study zone:** A quiet revision space available during lunch and after the enrichment programme every evening from 3.45pm to 4.30pm.
- **Create a distraction-free zone:** Help them set up a quiet study space away from mobile phones, social media, and the television.
- **Encourage active revision:** Prompt them to complete past paper questions, create mind maps, or use flashcards, rather than simply reading through their exercise books.
- **Test their knowledge:** Offer to spend 10 minutes quizzing them on key terms or let them try to teach a difficult topic to you.
- **Manage study blocks:** Help them stick to a realistic revision timetable that includes regular, short breaks (for example, 25 minutes of focused work followed by a 5-minute break).



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Looking Ahead

We are very much looking forward to our Mock Results Day on Tuesday 24 March 2026, where we will have the opportunity to celebrate the students' outcomes and hard work. Following this, we will write to you again to provide an update on the broader progress we are making as an Academy.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support in helping our students achieve their very best.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Pape', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Pape
Principal