






Essential Information to Support Your Child during Year 13



 **Toot Hill School**
The Banks
Bingham
Nottinghamshire
NG13 8BL

 +44 (0) 1949 875550
 www.toothillschool.co.uk
 contact@toothillschool.co.uk
 @TootHillBingham
 toothillschool

Head Teacher
Dr C Eardley BSc (Hons), PGCE, PhD

Executive Head Teacher
Mrs S Paley BSc (Hons), PGCE, MEd



15th March 2024

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Supporting your child through Year 13 examinations

Please find within this pack further information to support your son/daughter through their A Levels and Level 3 qualifications.

Contents:

- Key Information:
 - o Year 13 Team contact information
 - o Revision resources and strategies
- March/April:
 - o Easter revision session timetable
 - o Revision timetable/planners x 6
- May/June:
 - o Exam information
- July onwards:
 - o Results day letter

Please be aware that your child will have already received a detailed lesson by lesson plan from their teachers which includes home learning expectations and extended study sessions though this is not included in this pack. The plans highlight the fact that every lesson between now and the exams counts and it's imperative that attendance to lessons and registration with mentors remains high in the coming weeks so we can support both academically and pastorally.

During the exam period, your child's timetable will continue and lessons will still be delivered by subject teachers right up until the exam itself. Though we recognise that on some days your child will be in exams or warm up sessions, the expectation is that they take advantage of the expertise of their teachers in the run up to final exams.

As we approach the A Level examinations and final moderation of year 13 coursework, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your unwavering support in ensuring that your child achieves their full potential. We recognise the crucial role you play in your child's success and appreciate your continued support.

Many thanks,

P Coates

Achievement Coordinator Year 13

Your College Mentors:

Mentor	Subject specialisms:	Contact email address:
Mr Sandiford	Physics	dsandiford@novaeducationtrust.net
Mr R Walters	D.T and Engineering	rwalters@toothillschool.co.uk
Ms L. Graham	Languages	lgraham@toothillschool.co.uk
Mr Law	History and Politics	llaw@toothillschool.co.uk
Miss Bishopp	Languages	hbishopp@toothillschool.co.uk
Mrs White	D.T	lwhite@toothillschool.co.uk
Mr Vivian	Business and Economics	tvivian@toothillschool.co.uk
Mr Rogers	Business and Economics	Mr Rogers@toothillschool.co.uk

The College Leadership Team:

<u>Staff member</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Email</u>
Mrs Mordue	Head of College	cmordue@toothillschool.co.uk
Ms. Coates	Achievement Director of Year 13	pcoates@toothillschool.co.uk
Ms. Challoner	Pastoral Lead + Designated Safeguarding Lead	mchalloner@toothillschool.co.uk
Mrs Roberts	Achievement Director – Year 12	croberts@toothillschool.co.uk
Mr .Lawrence	Destinations Lead	slawrence@toothillschool.co.uk
M Fitzgibbons	College secretary	contact@toothillcollege.co.uk
Ms Warren	Assistant SENCO for Toot Hill School and College	rwarren@toothillschool.co.uk

Revision Strategies



TOOT HILL
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

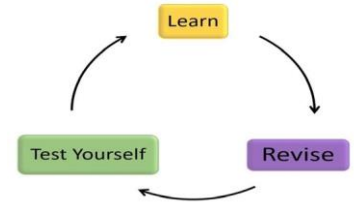


Revision techniques and tips



Learn, Revise, Test Yourself

This process is super important. You can't revise what you don't understand, or practice what you don't know, so don't skip out steps!



LEARN

The learning process starts **at school** and with home learning, but sometimes you might have to do some extra research and **consolidation of your learning** at too.

Before you start **revising** a topic, you need to make sure you understand it.

If there is anything you're not sure about, you could:

- ✓ Look back over your **notes** carefully and read the **revision guide** again.
- ✓ Look at your **knowledge organiser**
- ✓ Watch **Uplearn/tutor2u/everlearner** on the topic
- ✓ Do some research in the library or online
- ✓ Ask your **teacher for help**



REVISE

When you're happy that you **understand a topic**, you can move on to revise it.

Revising is the process of **going back over** what you've learnt so that you're ready to answer questions on it in an exam.

There are many **different ways** to revise:

-Condensing your notes **-Self-quizzing** **-Mind maps** **-Flashcard**

Don't worry if you find something you don't understand- just **learn it again**.

TEST YOURSELF

Once you're happy that you **know a topic**, it's time to **test yourself**:

- You could start by doing some quick **fact recall questions**, and then go on to some practice exam questions.
- It's really important to do some **realistic exam practice**- some questions will ask you to apply what you've learnt in **different ways** so it's good to know you can do this.

Don't worry if you find something you can't remember, go back to your notes and **revise it again** using **purple pen**!



Revision techniques and tips

Condensing your notes



Start with your Notes:

You will need to start with some high-quality notes, including:

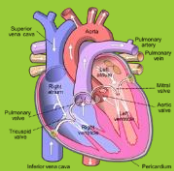
- Your Exercise Book
- Revision resources given to you by your teacher
- Knowledge Organisers (remember these are just the core knowledge)
- Revision Guides - ask your teacher for recommended guide
- Uplearn (Maths, Sciences, Economics, Psychology), Everlearner (PE), Tutor2U (Sociology, Law, Business Studies), Physics and Maths tutor



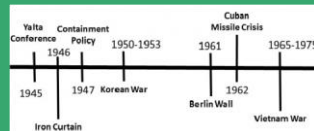
Condense them into your OWN WORDS:

- You'll want to **simplify** and **summarise** your notes into key points so they're easier to revise from.
- Aim to get **each topic** onto a **single page**. Cut out the waffle and pick out what's **important**.
- Try to **reorganise** the material in some way, e.g. by **grouping** it differently or **linking** topics together
- How you present your notes might depend on your subject or preferred revision style.
- Condensing topics make your revision **interactive**- It's better than just re-reading your notes again. Plus, you're more likely to remember your own words than something someone else had written.

Labelled diagrams for science:



A timeline of key dates for History.



A page of key quotes for English Literature.



A table of formulas and rules for Maths.

2D Shapes			
Name of Shape	Picture	Properties	Formulae
Scalene Triangle		No equal sides No equal angles	$Area = \frac{1}{2} \times b \times h$

Test Yourself on what you've covered: COPY, COVER, REPEAT

When you have simplified a topic, it's time to test yourself:

- 1) Cover up your notes and write down as much as you can remember
- 2) Compare what you've written to your notes and then fill in any gaps in purple pen so you know which bits you have missed
- 3) Keep doing this until you remember everything on the topic





Revision techniques and tips

Using Flash Cards

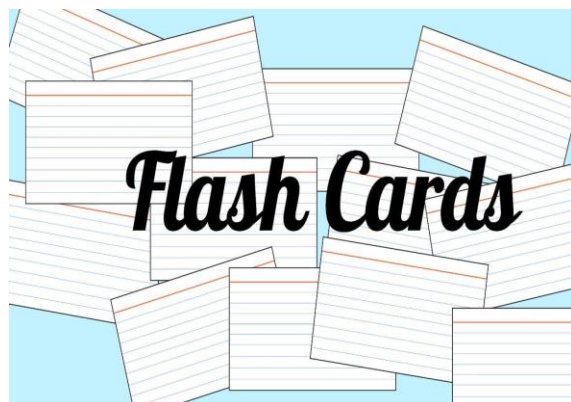
1. Flash cards are small cards with a **question or prompt** (Topic Title) on one side, and the **answer or information** on the other side.
2. They're a great way to test yourself and **find gaps in your knowledge**.
3. Flash cards are useful for learning things like:
 - Important **dates**
 - Language **vocabulary**
 - Key terms and **definitions**
 - Labelled **diagrams**

Ask someone else to test you- it removes the temptation to check the other side yourself before answering.

Say your answers out loud- this forces you to answer the question properly

Flash Cards are Easy to Make

- Write a **question or prompt** on one side
- Add **colour** and any **quick pictures** that might help you recall information
- Complete the other side with the **answer or piece of information**
- Keep your flash cards simple and stick to only the key information





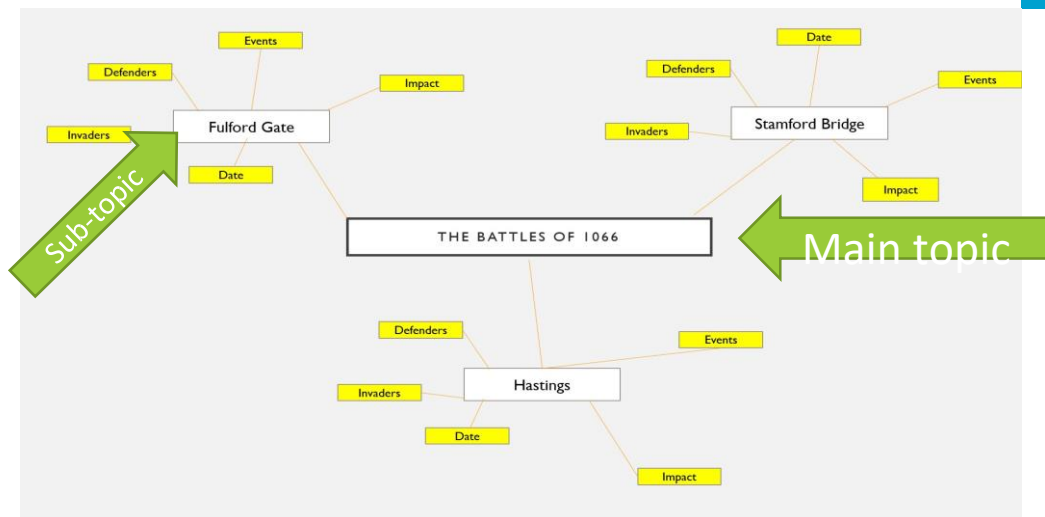
Use Them to Test Yourself

Test yourself until you get them **all correct**- make a pile of any cards you get wrong and go over them until you know them all

Revision techniques and tips

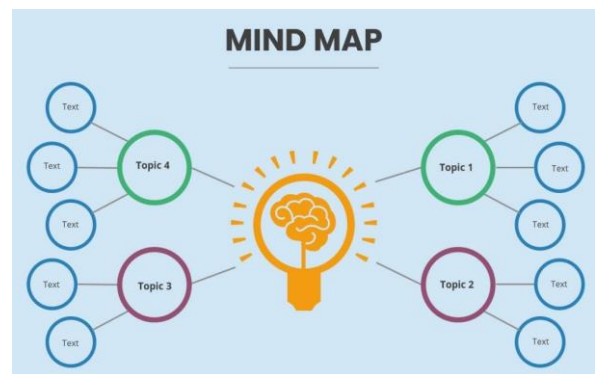
Drawing Mind Maps

- Mind maps are a **visual way** to organise information
- One mind map usually represent one topic
- The name of the **topic** goes in the middle, with **sub-topics** and further detail added around it.
- Details are **short** and to the **point**
- Boxes or bubbles around some of the information can help it stand out.
- You can use **colour** and **images** to help visualise the knowledge



Mind Maps are great for revising topics

1. Organising material **visually** can make it **easier to recall** in an exam.
2. Colour and images can help topics and information stick in your memory.
3. Mind maps can help you identify the **key ideas** of a topic and find links between them, which can help you see the topic in different ways.



You can use them throughout your revision

At the start

Use your notes and other resources to **draw a mind map** of a topic- it's a great way of **revising key information**

During revision

You could **pin** your completed mind maps up in your revision space so that you can **see them regularly**.

To test yourself

Draw a mind map of a topic from memory, then refer to the original and **fill in any gaps in a purple pen**- this shows you what you **still need to revise**.



FLASH CARDS

Question and
answer format



LOW-STAKES QUIZ

No marks/grades given



MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION

Choice of four answers



MAP YOUR MIND

Map out
knowledge



LOOK, COVER, WRITE, CHECK

Cover the answers and recall



THINK, PAIR, SHARE

Write down your responses,
share with a partner



BRAIN DUMPS

List everything you know on a
topic



FILL THE BLANKS

Fill in the missing spaces on a
diagram



ELABORATIVE INTERROGATION

Ask How? and Why?



DRAW

Grab a pencil and draw

WHEN TO USE THE STRATEGIES

First 5 Last 5 Homework Revision Independent work Support classwork

Online support



SENECA

Free interactive content to
keep students engaged



PMT
•resources•tuition•courses



The EverLearner

tutor2u 

Maths Genie

A Level Exams – How to support your son/daughter

What to do the morning of an exam?

- **Eat breakfast** – the most important meal of the day and will ensure your son/daughter is ready for the exam
- Arrive to **school early** before your exam – to give your son/daughter plenty of time to relax (at least 30 minutes before)
- Attend **subject warm-up** boosters (timetable attached)



What does your son/daughter need for the exam?

To ensure your son/daughter is fully prepared for every exam, they must have the following **equipment** with them for EVERY exam:

- Clear **pencil case** with:
 - 3x pens ○ 2x pencil ○ Rubber ○ Sharpener ○ Ruler ○ Protractor & compass ○ Calculator
- Clear bottle of **water** (no label)



Advice for Parents

Regular attendance throughout the exam period in lessons so they gain the specialist support of their teachers.

Preparing for exams is often something that some children only begin to think about in the last few weeks/days before.

- Help your son/daughter to plan a realistic **timetable** of study for each subject.
- Talk to your son/daughter and help them decide on a fixed area at home where they can study with the **least distractions**.
- Speak to the rest of the family, particularly younger members, about **respecting** this study area.
- Check the **dates of each exam** and keep a record of them somewhere you can see them easily. Your son/daughter has a copy of their exam timetable (you will also find it on your son/daughters INSIGHT).
- Encourage your son/daughter to get plenty of **sleep**, especially the night before an exam; at least 8 hours.
- Advise your son/daughter to have at least **1 day** a week without revision (maybe a Saturday?).
- Encourage your son/daughter to **eat well**. On the morning of an exam encourage them to have a breakfast, or lunch if the exam is in the afternoon.

- Minimum of 2 hours revision a night
- Each 'revision block' is 1 hour long with 2x 25:5 (work:rest)
- Rest means REST!!! Leave the room, go grab a drink, say hello to your family, walk around the block...



- 25 minutes work : 5 minutes rest ratio
- No phone, TV or other distractions in the same room
- Vary the subjects you study within each block (potentially revise up to Ensure that you have RAG rated topics w subject and begin with red topics first.

25:5



EXAMPLE SCHEDULE – finding blocks of time to study throughout the week

EARLY MORNING	LUNCHTIME	FREE PERIOD	AFTER SCHOOL	EARLY EVENING	
Arrive at school earlier - 30 minutes work	30 minutes work during lunchtime	60 minutes work during a study period – if you have them	60 minutes study after school	60 minutes study at home during early evening	4 HOURS STUDY BY EARLY EVENING – LEAVING YOU TIME TO RELAX

Before beginning again after food, hobbies, general relaxation. At least 2 hours when you return home.

You are welcome to spend time after school in the atrium from 3pm until at least 4.30pm Tuesday – Thursday and from 2.10pm until 3.30pm on Fridays.

Where could you find minimum 30 minute blocks of time to study?

EARLY MORNING	LUNCHTIME	FREE PERIOD	AFTER SCHOOL	EARLY EVENING	TOTAL
How much could you study early in the morning?	How much could you study at lunchtime?	How much could you study during a free period – if you have them?	How much could you study immediately after school?	How much could you study early evening?	

W/C	Before school	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	After school
Monday									
Tuesday									
Wednesday									
Thursday									
Friday									
Saturday									
Sunday									

W/C	Before school	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	After school
Monday									
Tuesday									
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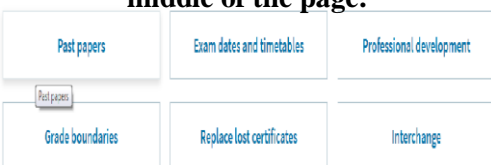
W/C	Before school	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	After school
Monday									
Tuesday									
Wednesday									
Thursday									
Friday									
Saturday									
Sunday									



Go to the website:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/>

Click on Past papers in the middle of the page:



Complete the search for your subject, type (A Level) and qualification (select date):

Past papers materials finder

Subject*
Please select...

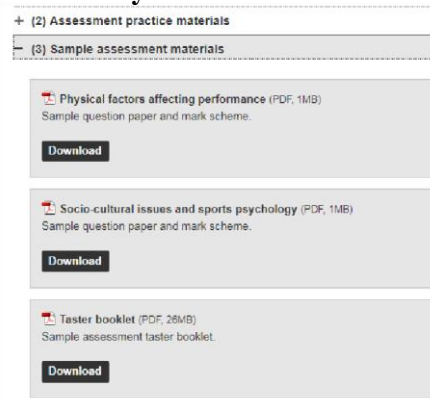
Type*
Please select...

Qualification*
Please select...

Series (optional)
Please select...

Search Reset

Click on the links to download the exam papers. You can also download the mark scheme to check your answers:



Go to the website:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>

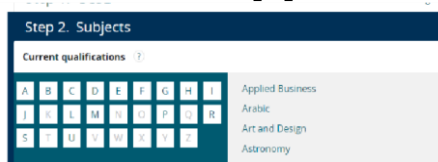
Click on Past papers in the middle of the page:



Select your qualification (A Level):



Select the subject you would like to download a paper for:



Select the year you would like to download the paper for:



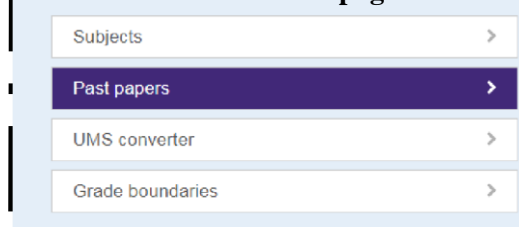
Click on the links to download the exam papers. You can also download the mark scheme to check your answers:



Go to the website:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/>

Click on Past papers on the left hand side of the page:



Complete the search for your subject and Qualification

Find past papers and mark schemes

Find past papers and mark schemes for your exams, and specimen papers for new courses.

Find

Subject: Which subject?

Qualification: What type of qualification?

Specification: Which specification?

Series: When was the exam?

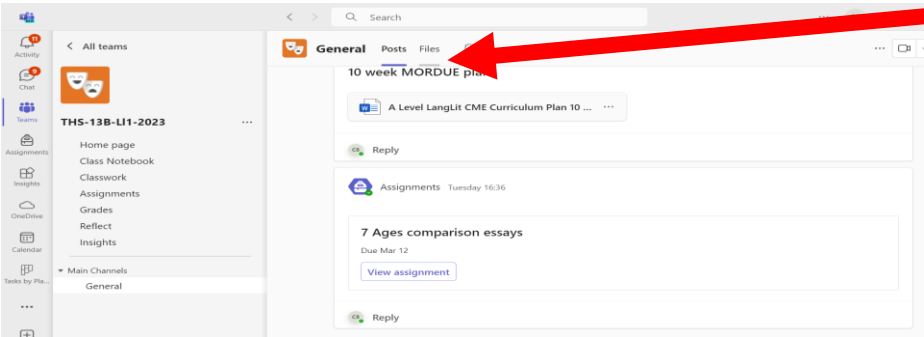
Click on the links to download the exam papers. You can also download the mark scheme to check your answers:

Specimen papers and mark schemes

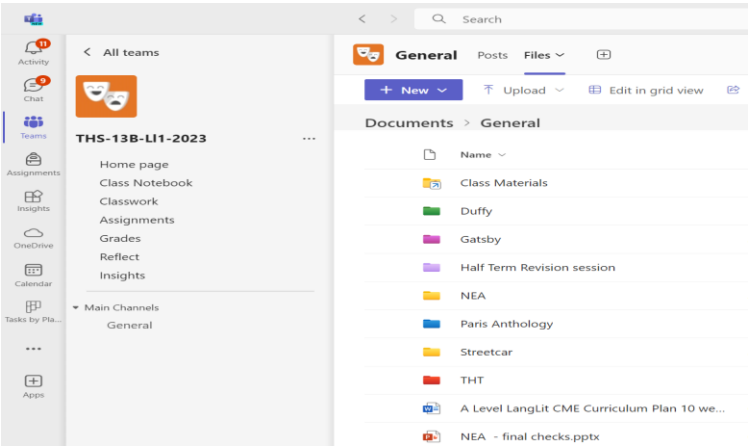
When new exams are introduced, there are no past papers. We provide specimen papers and mark schemes to help teachers and students prepare for new exams.

- Non-exam assessment guide: Moderation (102.0 KB)
- Paper 1: Specimen mark scheme (215.6 KB)
- Paper 1: Specimen question paper (363.5 KB)
- Paper 2: Specimen mark scheme (197.0 KB)
- Paper 2: Specimen question paper (279.5 KB)

Nearly all resources can be found on TEAMS. Your child should go to their subjects' TEAMS pages and look in the files section:



Inside the files section, they will find folders/ppts/resources linked to each topic on the specification:



Easter 2024 Revision Sessions				
	Tuesday 2 nd April	Wednesday 3 rd April	Thursday 4 th April	Friday 5 th April
	Group: Year 13 Language and Literature Paris Anthology Teacher: Mrs Mordue Time: 9am-12pm Room: 0.04		Group: 13D Spanish Teacher: Miss Bishopp Time: 9am – 3pm Room: 0.05	Group: Year 13 Literature Teacher: Miss Coates Time: 9am - 1pm Room: 0.04
	Group: Year 11/13 Fashion and Textiles Teacher: Mrs Gray and Mrs Wagstaff Time: 9am – 2:30pm Room: TST / AST		Group: 13D French Teacher: Miss Graham Time: 9am – 3pm Room: 0.12	
	Group: Year 13 Tudors Teacher: Miss Hussain Time: 8.30am - 12.30pm Room: H5			
Monday 8 th April	Tuesday 9 th April	Wednesday 10 th April	Thursday 11 th April	Friday 12 th April
Group: 13D Spanish Teacher: Miss Bishopp Time: 9am – 3pm Room: 0.12	Group: A Level Music Teacher: Mr Seymour Time: 9-3pm Room: MU1	Group: Year 13 Media Studies Teacher: Mrs Tull Time: 9.15am-12.15pm Room E5	Group: A Level Sport Teacher: Mrs Lynas Time: 10 – 12pm Room: 0.04	Group: Year 13 Language and Literature Teacher: Mrs Devine Time: 10am – 1pm Room: 0.04
Group: Year 13 Political Ideas Teacher: Mr Law Time: 8:30am – 12pm Room: 1.08	Group: Year 13 Tudors Teacher: Mrs Thomas Time: 9.00 am-3pm Room: L4	Group: A Level PE Teacher: Mr Modli Time: 9.00- 12.00pm Room: E4	Group: BTEC Sport Teacher: Mrs Lynas Time: 12.30 – 2.30pm Room: 0.04	
Group: Year 13 Cold War Teacher: Mr Law Time: 12:30pm – 3pm Room: 1.08				

Exam Information

Exam Timetables and Conduct

Examinations have very strict rules which are set out by JCQ. If they are not followed, students can be disqualified.

The exam timetable with venue information will be put onto the school website closer to the start of exams. Venue information will also be situated in the year area, so it is important to keep your eye on them and know when your exams are.

Toot Hill Examination Expectations

- Morning exams begin at 8:45am. Afternoon exams begin at 1.15pm
- Know when and where your exams are going to take place
- Arrive early for your exam. Do not be late! If you are late you may not be allowed to sit your exam
- Do not communicate with any student while you are in the exam room. If you do, you may be disqualified. This applies as soon as you enter the room until the moment you leave
- No mobile phones, or electronical items such as MP3/4 players or notes are allowed. Phones should be switched off in your bag
- Watches of any kind must not be worn in the exam – students will be reminded to take them off and placed in their bag or handed in to the invigilators before the start of the exam
- Pencil cases must be transparent
- Water bottles must not have a label on
- If you are allowed to use a calculator in your exam, make sure the batteries are working and the case has no formulas on it
- Listen and follow instructions carefully
- You will not be allowed to go to the toilet during an exam
- Under no circumstances will anyone be allowed to finish an exam early

Before the Exam: Top Tips

- Know your exam timetable
- Know when and where you need to be each day and plan to get there early
- Make sure you have everything you need: 2 x black pens, pencil, pencil sharpener, calculator etc.
- Go to the toilet before the exam begins
- If an exam finishes after the school buses leave, it is your responsibility to arrange transport home after the exam
- Check all of your pockets for any banned items.

If you are ill:

All Students must sit all of their timetabled examinations. In the case of extreme circumstances please call the school and ask to speak to your head of year or a member of the SLT/College team. Dependent on circumstances arrangements may be made to ensure you are in school to sit your exam.

If you are late:

Call reception and ask them to inform the exams office of your lateness.

End of afternoon exams:

As exams begin at 1.15pm in the afternoon, the length of A level examinations, in addition to extra time, may mean your child finishes later than 3pm. **Where your child will miss their usual transport home, your child's responsibility to organise transport home.**

15th March 2024

Y4aPupil/Pupil/Letters/GCSE and A Level results day
MOD/File

GCSE and A LEVEL Results days

We will be holding an in-person results day for both GCSE and ALEVEL students. These will take place in the college building.

Results day dates are as follows

- **ALEVEL:** Thursday 15th August 2024 – 8:30am-11:30am
- **GCSE:** Thursday 22nd August 2024 – 9am-11:30am

If you are unable to come in to collect your results

- You can nominate a family member or friend to collect your results for you. If you would like to nominate another person to collect your results you will need to do the following:
 - Email exams@toothillschool.co.uk with the full name of the person who will be collecting your results, your full name, year group and tutor set. Please ensure the subject line is results collection.
 - You will receive a reply to acknowledge that your email has been received.
 - The nominated person will need to bring a form of photo ID on results day.
 - If the nominated person does not bring photo ID or an email has not been received by the exams officer then the results will not be released to them.
 - The email will need to be sent by **Friday 26th July 2024**
- You can bring in a stamped and address envelope to main school reception
- Please ensure the correct postage has been used. Envelopes should be A5 envelopes
- Please ensure you have a note attached to the envelope when brought in which has your full name, year group and tutor set.
 - The results will be posted out the day before results day, however, we cannot guarantee the results will be delivered on the official results day.
 - The envelope will need to be brought into **main school reception** by **Friday 26th July 2024**

Many thanks,

A Modi

Mr Ash Modi

Celebration dates and key dates:

- Monday 13th May – Exams begin
- Friday 21st June – Exam end
- Friday 28th June – Year 13 Celebration Breakfast and Speeches.
- Saturday 6th July – Year 13 Leavers Ball.
- Thursday 15th August – Results day

Candidates sitting exams this summer must keep the following **contingency days** available, in case exams have to be moved nationally:

Wednesday 26th June 2024 – am and pm



27/02/2023

**To Parent(s)/Career(s) of:
Year 13 Students**

Dear Parent(s)/Career(s)

~~Colwick Hall~~ – Saturday 6th July 2024

~~Colwick Park~~, Racecourse Road, Nottingham, NG2 4BH

At last it's here.... your son/daughter has almost made it to the end of their College journey! We now have the pleasure of inviting them to the **Year 13 College Ball**.

The Student Union have been consulting with the year group to design their evening. The evening starts with arrival from 6pm for a start of 6.30pm. It will include a welcome drink, 2 course sit-down meal, awards and music, finishing at 12:00am. The venue provides security for the evening and a number of staff will be attending the celebration, including members of the college team and college mentors.

The cost of the evening is £57.00 per head. You can pay for this ticket through your Scopay account. If you haven't used Scopay before please email the finance team on finance@toothillschool.co.uk who will be more than happy to help.

We need to let the venue know the number of students attending in advance, therefore we ask that you confirm your son/daughter's attendance by paying before **Friday 10th May 2024**

We very much hope that all of Year 13 will be at the College Ball so that we can celebrate their fantastic years at Toot Hill Sixth Form College before they move on to the next exciting chapter in their lives.

Yours sincerely

C Mordue

Catherine Mordue
Head of College

P Coates

P Coates
Head of Year 13

Thank you for your continued support.



