8 March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Year 11 GCSE History Revision Guidelines**

I am writing to inform you of some of the ways that you can support your son/daughter to achieve their full potential in the GCSE History exam. I would be very grateful if you could discuss the listed points below with your son/daughter in order to support and direct their revision at home.

1. Students should RAG rate the History specification in order to identify which areas they are most confident with and which areas they need to focus on more. The Edexcel History Specification can be found here: [https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html](https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html). Students at Rickmansworth are studying the following modules: Paper 1: Medicine Through Time c.1250-present, Paper 2: The Reigns of Richard I and King John 1189-1216 and Conflict in the Middle East, 1945-95 and Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39. Students should also use the trackers at the front of their exercise books as guidance and create flash cards based on the topics listed.

2. Students were provided with text books for all of the topics studied and the should use these books as a starting point on which to base their revision. Students should complete all exam questions included in the textbook. Should you wish to supplement this, Hodder have produced revision guides and workbooks for the main topics studied which can be purchased here: [https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/History/GCSE/Edexcel](https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/History/GCSE/Edexcel) (approximately £3.99 per book).

3. Although this is a new specification, there are some specimen questions and papers which can be found here: [https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.coursesematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments&filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Document-Type%2FSpecimen-paper-and-mark-scheme](https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.coursesematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments&filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Document-Type%2FSpecimen-paper-and-mark-scheme). This is an excellent way to test knowledge and develop exam technique. The most important aspect is marking the paper, so students should attempt to mark their own in the first instance, however if they wish, they can bring completed answers to their History teacher for checking.

4. Students should plug any gaps in knowledge by using the GCSE Pod [https://www.gcsepod.com](https://www.gcsepod.com). Students should use the Pods to write key notes in relevant topic areas.

5. Sign up to Mr Jones’ and Miss Rice’s History Booster session, every Wednesday week B at 3:30pm.
6. Some students have been identified to attend the Spring revision workshop on Saturday 21 April 2018.

We have every confidence in your son/daughter’s ability, but as we approach the exams, it will become more and more essential that students work more independently and your support in guiding your son/daughter towards this support is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Cramp
Head of History