

24th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The journey your child began when they first started school at the age of five is now entering its final and most important stage. After many years of learning, development and preparation, the coming weeks will play a crucial role in shaping their future pathways.

At Ash Hill Academy, we are proud that our students achieve exceptional outcomes year after year. This success is built on tried and tested approaches, high expectations and the consistent commitment shown by students, staff and families.

One of the most effective strategies in securing strong GCSE results is attendance at structured revision sessions during the Easter holidays. These sessions provide students with the opportunity to be taught directly by highly skilled specialist teachers, rather than relying solely on independent revision from books at home. This focused teaching helps to address misconceptions, strengthen exam technique and build confidence ahead of the final examinations.

As we move towards the GCSE examinations, every lesson, every revision session and every moment of focused effort truly counts. We are committed to supporting your child to achieve their very best, and your encouragement and support at home will make a significant difference during this final period.

Attendance – A Key Priority in the Final Months

Attendance remains one of our highest priorities. Students who attend school regularly achieve better outcomes, develop stronger routines and maximise their chances of success in examinations.

I am pleased to share that attendance has improved compared to the previous year. This equates to over 1,500 additional days of learning in school for our students. Persistent absence has also reduced, meaning more pupils are now attending regularly and benefiting from consistent routines, strong teaching and positive relationships.

For Year 11 students, these final months are critically important. Lessons are now focused on revision, exam preparation and securing key knowledge and skills. Missing school at this stage can have a significant impact on final outcomes.

We expect all students to attend the Academy every day unless there is a valid reason for absence. Our expectation is that students achieve at least 97% attendance, particularly during this final term when every lesson matters.

Families will continue to receive weekly attendance updates, allowing us to work together to maintain high standards.


If your child is absent, please contact the Academy each day by calling 01302 562541 (option 1) or by emailing attendance@ashhillacademy.org.uk providing the reason for absence.

Revision Expectations and Easter Revision Sessions

All Year 11 students should now be revising regularly at home as part of their preparation for GCSE examinations. Establishing consistent revision routines will help strengthen knowledge recall, build confidence and improve performance.

Our Easter revision sessions are extremely important in supporting students during this final stage. These sessions are free, taught by subject specialist teachers and carefully planned to focus on key knowledge, exam technique and targeted support.

We strongly encourage all students to attend the sessions they have been invited to. Please see the recent letter from Mrs Quinn for full details regarding expectations and arrangements.

The full revision timetable can be accessed here:  [Easter Revision 26.pptx](#) . Students are permitted to attend in non-school uniform.

Every additional hour of focused revision can make a meaningful difference to final GCSE outcomes.

Passport to the Prom

We are looking forward to celebrating the achievements of our Year 11 students at the end of their examinations.

To ensure that your child can attend, we have set clear criteria for eligibility:

- 100% attendance to the Academy
- 100% attendance to academic support sessions
- Consistent recall on the gate every morning
- No C5 behaviour sanctions
- No suspensions

Students who are not currently meeting these expectations have received communication outlining the steps required. We ask for your support in helping your child meet these expectations so they can take part in this important milestone celebration.

Punctuality and Commitment

Students must arrive on time each day and be fully prepared to learn. Where possible, medical appointments should be arranged outside school hours to avoid disruption to learning during this critical period.

Key Dates

- Friday 27th March 2026 – Academy closes for Easter holiday
- Monday 13th April 2026 – Academy reopens
- Monday 4th May 2026 – May Day Bank Holiday
- Friday 22nd May 2026 – Academy closes for Summer half-term

Looking Ahead

These final weeks represent the culmination of your child's school journey so far. With strong attendance, consistent revision and continued support from home, they will be in the best possible position to achieve success and move confidently onto the next stage of their education, employment or training.

Thank you for your continued support. I wish you and your family a safe and restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming students back after the holiday ready for this final push towards GCSE success.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Hicks'.

Mathew Hicks
Principal