

Timeline

November 2022	Interim 1
December 2022	Careers Fair
February 2023	Interim 2
March 2023	Parents Evening
May/June 2023	Year 10 exams and results
June 2023	Reports
July 2023	Work Experience Week
September 2023	Mentoring Day - Pupils in need of additional support in Year 11 will be identified
	Study Skills Evening for selected students
	Work Related Learning Day
	Careers interviews
November 2023	Sixth Form Open Evening
	Year 11 Mock Exams
December 2023	Estimates issued
January 2024	Mentoring Day
	Parents Evening
	UG Sixth Form Applications deadline
March 2024	Second Mock Examinations
	Final estimates issued
May 2024	GCSE examinations begin

Approach to Learning

- 1 – Proactive and positive approach to all aspects of learning; going above and beyond in your studies.
- 2 – Positive approach to learning.
- 3 - Approach to learning is inconsistent and falls below our expectations; follow your teacher's advice to improve.
- 4 – Approach to learning consistently falls below our expectations; follow your teacher's advice to improve.

Behaviour

- 1 - **Outstanding.** You consistently demonstrate high levels of self-control and a positive attitude towards your own education and that of your peers.
- 2 - **Good.** You usually demonstrate self-control and a positive attitude towards your own education and that of your peers.
- 3 - **Requires improvement.** You need reminding about our high expectations for behaviour and you have to be directed to improve.

Head of School— Mr Roberts
proberts@urmstongrammar.org.uk

Head of Year — Miss Smith
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10U — Miss A James

10R —Mr R Pratska/Mr J Dodd

10M —Dr McPartland/Mr J Hodson

10S — Mr C Tabor

10T — Miss J Devenney-Lees

Careers — Amy Marshall
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Work Experience— Natasha Kinder
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URMSTON GRAMMAR

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Into Key Stage 4: Information for Parents



Strategies to Support Key Stage 4 Pupils 2022 - 2024

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

As the demands on your child become more rigorous we feel that it is important that we highlight the strategies we have in place to enable them to fulfil their full potential through the next two years.

The GCSE years represent a challenging time in the life of any young person. All students are likely to find themselves under more pressure than they have done previously. With our encouragement and guidance they should develop the resilience to cope with these additional demands. A support network does exist in school but close communication between home and school is very important; we want to work with parents, so that together we can support the needs of all pupils.

Within the Upper School there is a wealth of pastoral experience and this means that if pupils experience academic, emotional or behavioral difficulties, they will be fully supported. We work closely with school based 'Student Services' and external agencies.

REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT

We provide a supportive academic environment and expect pupils to strive to achieve the best possible grades. Academic achievement is tracked closely and you will be kept fully informed of your child's progress. This allows us to identify pupils who may be falling below our expectations and arrange appropriate strategies.

Pupils are tracked three times during Year 10 and in addition to this there is a parents evening. In the first tracking point we monitor pupils' approach to learning, behaviour and issue target grades; we will intervene if pupils have not established an independent approach to work.

The second tracking point, in February, we monitor approach to learning and behaviour.

In April/May pupils will sit their Year 10 exams and we hope that the majority will be on track to achieve their target grades. Additional subject and/or pastoral support is offered to those who are underachieving. Pupils who fall below target will be monitored more closely by the Head of Department or by the Head of Year; pupils may be expected to attend a study skills session to help with revision.

All pupils have a mentoring day at the start of Year 11 where they will discuss their progress, achievements and aspirations with Form Tutors.

The next tracking point is the Mock Examinations in Year 11, in November, from which we make our initial estimates of their GCSE grades. All students then sit a second set of Mock Examinations in March.

There is a structured timetable in place post Mock Examinations for all Year 11 pupils of the revision classes offered by teaching staff, this will be emailed home to parents.

There are many more revision classes taking place in Year 10 and 11 prior to this which individual teachers will inform pupils and parents about.

Some departments also offer Easter Revision Sessions and these are provided by teachers. Again details will be emailed home nearer the time.

BEYOND GCSES

Your child will be offered impartial careers guidance from Amy Marshall to support the transition from Year 11 to post-16 education.

In the summer term of Year 10 pupils have group sessions where they discuss post-16 options. Then at the start of Year 11 Amy makes a presentation and in the Work Related Learning day they benefit from a careers search session. In the Autumn term Amy conducts one-to-one sessions with each pupil so they can discuss their individual needs.

Amy offers a weekly lunchtime drop-in session for any pupils who require additional support in this area.

We will make pupils aware of the many benefits of continuing their education at Urmston Grammar as well as providing them with information on their full range of Post-16 options. The Head of Sixth Form, staff and current Sixth Formers, will provide information and their insight prior to the UG Sixth Form application deadline in January.

Further to this there are many careers talks provided at lunchtime which Year 10 and 11 pupils are encouraged to attend.

WHAT MAKES A PROACTIVE PARENT?

The things I am sure you already do.....

Ensure that your child is in school.

Be actively involved in supporting your child, discussing their work and how they are feeling.

Contact school if there are subject specific issues.

Encourage your child to talk to their teachers if they need to, bringing them with you to parents evening is ideal.

Provide a suitable home environment for revision.

Be aware that your child might feel under pressure; talk to them and give support.

Above all, accept and embrace the challenge with your child and encourage them to strive to achieve at the highest possible level.....don't settle for second best!