

16 December 2025

Dear Parents & Families,

**Subject: Year 11 Revision Sessions 2026**

This letter serves to outline a model we are planning to launch to our Year 11 students in January: "Period 6". The proposed model has a strong rationale and it is essential that we share this with you. We are keen to gather your feedback and secure your commitment to this important enhancement of our exam preparation strategy.

**1. Leveling the Playing Field**

As the final examinations approach, your child is competing nationally. We are acutely aware that many students across the country receive significant external support, including private tuition (on average, 21% of students nationally and 40% in the London area receive tuition annually), Saturday schools, and extended study programmes.

We firmly believe that every one of our students deserves the same opportunity for success. We do not want your child to be disadvantaged. The addition of Period Six will provide three dedicated afternoons per week of targeted, high-impact support and a supervised, independent study environment, directly addressing this disparity.

**2. Mastering the GCSE Rigour**

The 2015 GCSE reforms require students to cover substantially more subject content in greater breadth and depth. Success now demands the recall and application of vast amounts of information.

Mock exam results show that while many students have achieved success, significant, necessary improvements are still required in both major exam components and coursework across the entire year group.

Research confirms that effective memory and learning require content to be revisited and recapped multiple times over an extended period. Our Period Six

provision is structured precisely to facilitate this systematic and guided revision by subject experts.

### **3. Creating the Ideal Study Environment**

We know from previous student feedback that working independently at home can be a struggle, often lacking structure, focus, and a quiet space without distractions.

Our after-school provision will offer a calm, quiet, and purposeful environment. Students will study the right content at the right time, guided and supported directly by their teachers, eliminating the distractions of home.

Parents often tell us about the difficulties of supporting home learning—uncertainty about course content, revision techniques, or identifying truly constructive tasks. Period Six provides students with guidance, high-quality resources, and support to ensure their study, both in school and at home, is purposeful and highly effective.

We cannot overstate the importance of parental support for this initiative. Your commitment to ensuring your child attends and makes the most of this time is absolutely key to their success.

### **4. A Proven Path to Higher Grades**

The Period Six model is not experimental; it is a proven strategy utilised by high-achieving and independent schools across the country and has also been implemented at other schools within the Trust. Schools that implemented this provision in previous years saw students achieve, on average, nearly half a grade higher across 8 GCSE subjects in their final exams. We are confident this vital extra time will yield similar, significant benefits for our students.

## **Proposed Arrangements for Period Six**

We plan for these sessions to become a mandatory part of our exam preparation strategy, and **all students will attend** sessions on the proposed days.

- Start Date: Monday, 26 January 2026
- Session Days: Every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday
- End Time: All sessions will finish promptly at 4:15 PM.



We are aware that a proportion of our students take a bus to school and we are keen to work with families where there are going to be issues with transportation. The school will contact you further, to discuss possible arrangements.


Activity	Description
<b>Registration</b>	Students will be escorted to the main hall, registered, and receive key messages from staff.
<b>Targeted Sessions</b>	Students will be directed to specific, targeted sessions led by subject teachers based on need.
<b>Independent/ Preparatory Study</b>	Supervised independent study in computer suites or quiet writing rooms.
<b>Coursework Completion</b>	Dedicated provision for work on practical course assignments (e.g., Art, Design & Technology).

We know that Period Six will provide every child with much-needed additional time and support in the final months of Year 11. Our intention is to provide the students with every possible opportunity to be successful in the summer. Before we formally launch this plan, we are keen to hear your feedback and suggestions. This consultation is vitally important to ensure our plans are as effective as possible.

Please share your views and suggestions with us before the end of term on Friday, 19 December 2025, by emailing our main school address at [secretary@stdunstans.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stdunstans.mnsp.org.uk) with the subject line 'Period 6 Proposal'. We will consider all feedback and share our final model shortly thereafter.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working with you to ensure every student in Year 11 is given the best possible chance of success this summer.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P Balkwill', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr P Balkwill  
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T Armstrong', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr T Armstrong  
Assistant Head

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A Richards', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mrs A Richards  
Assistant Head