Irlam and Cadishead Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning



Year 11 Guide for Parents

Revision Offer 2026-27

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Steps to Success

This Year 11 Guide is designed to help parents support their child in succeeding in their GCSEs and other examinations. Below are some proven steps to success that, through experience, we know give students the best chance of achieving their desired results:

1

ATTEND SCHOOL

We need your support in encouraging our Year 11 students to commit to their success by ensuring they attend school every day. Research shows that students with 95% attendance or higher are significantly more likely to achieve five 9-5 grades at GCSE. This achievement opens up more opportunities for your child post-16.

TAKE PART IN REVISION

2

On average, students who attend our revision sessions improve on their mock results by 2 whole grades!

3

PLAN

Keep up to date with key dates such as mocks and parents' evenings.
We'll keep in touch with you so you're always in the loop!

Year 11 Key Dates

This is a big year for Year 11, and it's easy to feel overwhelmed and daunted at the prospect of what lies ahead. Organisation is key! Read on for key dates to help you and your child plan to succeed:

KEY DATES FOR YEAR 11 THIS YEAR

Parents' Evening - 3rd December '26

All coursework completed by February half term

Mock Exams - 8th Feb - 26th Feb '27

Parents' Evening - 24th March '27

GCSE Exams - May/June '27

Year 11 Prom - 2nd July '27 (invitation)

PLAN FOR KEY DATES

Planning is essential for success!

Keep up to date with key dates such as mocks and parents' evenings. We'll keep in touch with you so you're always in the loop!



Our Revision Offer

SESSIONS	
PERIOD 6	Period 6 classes offer students a valuable opportunity to revisit and clarify concepts they may not have fully understood during regular classes. These sessions allow teachers to address areas of confusion, provide additional support, and help students build a stronger understanding, fostering a sense of confidence and support.
TAILORED REVISION	Tailored revision sessions will begin in Term 2. These small group sessions will take place between 4:00 and 5:00 PM. Attendance is by invitation; however, parents may request an invitation for their child.
SATURDAY SESSIONS	Saturday sessions will begin in Term 2 and will be tailored based on mock exam results. These sessions are designed to provide targeted support for additional learning.
PERIOD 0	On the mornings of major exams, students will be offered a Revision Booster session starting at 7:30 AM, with breakfast provided.

DON'T COUNT THE DAYS, MAKE THE DAYS COUNT.

HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH REVISION

REVISING EARLY

Starting early can help students avoid panic and stress, it can help them to get into good habits and they will be able to remember more of the material. Check in with them and their progress.

MORE THAN READ

Students will only remember around 10% of what they read. Help them by testing them and getting your child to write things down. When children summarise key points from their revision book in their own words, it can help them retain a lot more of the information.

TIDY & QUIET

A revision spot with good lighting, the right stationary and no distractions such as the television or their mobile phone can help a child focus a lot more. Children focus best when the environment is quiet and tidy.

Student Wellbeing

At ICA, we want to support your child's wellbeing especially at times that can be intense and stressful.

Sitting exams is an experience that can lead to feelings of stress and worry for many students.

If your child is experiencing any stress or worry during Year 11, please reach out to a member of the Safeguarding Team who can offer support.

There are also many charities and organisations that we can signpost you and your child to that offer advice and guidance to support throughout Year 11.

In addition to this we have a wide range of drop in services available from our school nurse, counsellors and youth service.



It's important that alongside revision our students make time to socialise and relax.

ICAconcerns@irlamandcadishead.org.uk is a **safe space** to email any concerns to the safeguarding team. Whether you have a concern about something in school, at home or online, you can **get in touch and get support.**

College Timeline

Priestley College

Salford City Colleges

Warrington Vale



To access a BTEC level 3 course students, require a Grade 5 in Maths and a Grade 5 in English.

Sep
Colleges will visit ICA in assemblies.

Oct
Open Days commence and applications are open.

Nov
Submit College Apprenticeship Applications

Dec
Application Deadline

Jan
College interviews begin.

Feb
College interviews continue.

Mar
You will start to receive decisions from colleges.

Apr
If successful you will be invited to a course consultation

May
Exams begin.

Apply for Our Pass

Jun
Exams finish.

Jul
'New student days'

Enrolment Appointments Sent

Aug
GCSE Results Day.

Enrolment appointments



To access A-level courses, students must achieve at least a Grade 6 in the subjects they wish to study. Apprenticeship providers typically require a Grade 4 in both English and Maths.

NEXT STEPS