



AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

*from*

HEAD OF YEAR 13

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18 October 2024

**RE: Half-term holiday and Year 13 trial exam preparations**

Dear parents and carers,

As the half-term holiday approaches, I am writing with some advice on how you might seek to support your daughters and sons as they prepare to sit A level mock examinations, which commence on Monday 11 November.

As I said at Year 13 Parents' Day, our aim this year is to assist our students in their planning how best to strike an appropriate balance between rest, recreation and revision. Consequently, we have advised them to devote about **20 hours a week** to revision/NEA coursework/EPQ writing/BTEC assignments across **five days** with **three to four clear days off** during the half term break. This should ensure students return to College refreshed without the prospect of a huge mountain of work waiting for them when they get back. Ideally, these daily study sessions should occur in two to three sittings, so that there is appropriate space for the other things that matter when your children are with you.

Those students intending to apply to start university in 2025 or 2026 and who have not already submitted their UCAS application form should ensure that their personal statement is ready for minor editing and submission immediately after the holiday so that they can give their revision the full attention it will require in the second half of the autumn term.

As ever, please do feed back any observations you may have on how your child is coping with their revision and mock exam preparations to your child's tutor—this insight is particularly valuable in early November and will inform any decisions about what support or encouragement our students may require in the lead in to the Christmas holiday.

I hope you will enjoy the half-term break together.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Vowles