



8 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 9

This time last year Hagley Catholic High School invested in an online resource called GCSEPod, which is an award-winning digital content and revision provider used by over 1,250 schools worldwide. The initiative has been a huge success with nearly 20,000 pods being accessed across the school since July 2020.

As a subscriber, your child now has access to GCSEPod's library of over 6,000 'Pods,' 3-5 minute videos designed to deliver knowledge in short bursts. GCSEPod makes learning and revision much more manageable. Every Pod is mapped to an exam board, and contains all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success, all neatly organised into topics and exam playlists. One of the best features about GCSEPod is that you can download any Pod to your child's mobile device, and then they can watch them at any time, in any place, with or without internet. GCSEPod apps are available on Android or Apple devices.

We recommend that you talk about GCSEPod with your son or daughter, check that they have successfully activated their account and encourage them to make use of this amazing resource throughout their GCSE's. Once they have activated their account, they can browse the GCSEPod library and create their own playlists, just as they would when they are listening to music. For more ways to support your child using GCSEPod, please visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where you will find lots more information and resources. **Teachers of core subjects (RE, English, Science and Maths) will be setting summer tasks for each student which may involve the use of GCSEPod.** Some option subjects may also use GCSEPod to ensure that students are ready to begin their Key Stage 4 courses in September.

Your child has had a Microsoft Office 365 log in created and they would have used these details to log into Microsoft Teams for online lessons during the pandemic. On the website (www.gcsepod.com), click 'login', then 'sign in with Office 365' and this will enable the student to access the resources and any work that has been set. Homework tasks will continue to be set by staff on ClassCharts but GCSEPod can link directly to this platform.

If you have any technical queries, then please contact support@emmausmac.com. For any content specific questions please contact the relevant Head of Department or feel free to contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely

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