



17TH March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are delighted to announce that Farringdon Community Academy has recently invested in GCSEPod, the award-winning digital content and revision provider used by over 1,200 schools worldwide. As a subscriber, your child now has access to GCSEPod's library of over 6,000 'Pods' which are 3-5 minute videos designed to deliver knowledge on most of their subjects in short, bite-size bursts. GCSEPod makes learning and revision much more manageable – all neatly organised into subjects and topics.

All students at our Academy now have unlimited access to this online learning platform, with KS3 students having had an assembly launch with me yesterday. All students have been encouraged to build in the use of this learning platform into their independent studies at home. I have recommended for effective retention of learning that students revisit their learning using GCSEPod on a weekly, half termly, termly and annual basis. Please join us in encouraging your child to use this learning tool as recommended. They can access the homepage via our Academy website or via their internet search engine. Student login details are as below (unless they have made changes):

Username: *student number*@farringdonca.net e.g. 12345@farringdonca.net

Password: Password

*Students' '*student numbers*' are the five digit numbers they use to login to our Academy computers.

One of the best things about GCSEPod is that you can download any Pod to your child's mobile device and they can watch them at any time, in any place: with or without internet. It's like they're carrying a whole set of text books in their pocket! So whilst GCSEPod is an online tool, it can support learning offline too. Please ensure you/ your child downloads the GCSEPod app from the App Store (Apple and Android are supported) to access this feature.

Key features to get excited about:

- **Assignments** – Teachers can set student assignments via GCSEPod. These assignments include students watching the Pods and making their own revision notes or they might include some assignment questions. Some assignment questions will be marked by GCSEPod too so your child gets instant feedback.
- **Boost Playlists** - GCSEPod also has the ability to identify gaps in what your child knows and automatically sends playlists to help fill them. After completing some assignments set on GCSEPod, your child will get a personalised "Boost Playlist" of Pods relevant to their identified areas of weakness. We strongly suggest you encourage your child to review these playlists regularly as this will speed up their progress.
- **GCSEPod and Class Charts** – Any homework set by staff using GCSEPod should be linked into Class Charts therefore you, as parents/ guardians, should be able to track your child's homework easily via Class Charts.

We recommend that you talk about GCSEPod with your child – make sure they've successfully activated their account and encourage them to make use of this amazing resource throughout their time at our Academy. Once they've activated their account, they can browse the Pod library and create their own playlists – just as they would when they're listening to music.

For more ways you can help support your child using GCSEPod, please visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where you'll find lots more information and resources. More information and guidance can also be found on our Academy website on the Student Home Study Page.

If you have any questions regarding GCSEPod please contact your child's tutor or House Progress Leader for support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Farley



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