

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers

I am writing to you to give you an overview of some of the key information and dates for Year 11 which will help you to support your child in this important year. Year 11 have had a fantastic start to the year and we are now putting together a program that we think will support our young people to be successful, fulfilling their potential and progressing to their first choice destination.

Looking Ahead

Our **Year 11 Information Evening** will be on **Tuesday 10th October at 6pm** in the hall and it is important that each child has a parent or carer attending the meeting. We would ask that you do not bring any young children to this meeting. Here you will receive important information dates and guidance on how to support your child during this challenging but rewarding year.

Personalised Intervention

Having analysed the data we are now beginning to pick up individual students and groups of students who we believe need intervention to ensure they get back on track to fulfilling their potential regardless of their target grade; whether on course for a grade 8 or 9 or a grade 4 or 5. We will explain more at the information evening where we will also remind you of the importance of the relationship between the school, home and the young person in ensuring they make the right decisions in attending interventions and engaging with the extra learning on offer.

Revision and study skills

Success in GCSE is dependent on students revising throughout Year 11 what has been learnt in Year 10 as well as Year 11. Students will receive revision guidance and resources including a drop-down day to support them in developing these skills such as creating a revision timetable, using the resources given by their teachers as well as creating their own. The half term holiday should be used for reflecting on the recent feed forward assessments, revision and preparations for the mock examinations but also should have some inbuilt well-being and mental health breaks. At the information evening we will be supporting how students can best do this.

Count Up Club / Study Hub

Once a week a group of children will be invited to a Maths intervention or English intervention class. You will receive communication about this if it involves your child. It is important that they attend all sessions.

We will also offer a space for students to seek support and where students can do their home learning, for some of our young people their houses can be busy places and they need a space to study quietly. After half term the school Sixth Form @SPIRE hub will be open to Year 11 on specific days to support those who would like to complete their home learning and revision. Attendance will be expected for some but available to all.

All students will have two 1:1 interviews this year to discuss their mock examination preparation and then we will review their results later in the year, as well as discussing their aspirations for next year.

Post 16

During the autumn term your child will have a one-to-one meeting with a member of staff where we will support them in their preparation for the mock examinations which begin in November once the interim reports have been completed. Mock examinations are vital to staff as they tell teachers what the student is good at and where there are gaps and where they need to intervene before moving on. It is important your child works hard to achieve their very best in these examinations.

During their one-to-one session we will begin to explore the choices for post 16 and to provide support to ensure each child makes their application deadline and achieve their plan A.

Obviously we hope all students will return to us in our Sixth Form in September 2023 but they do need to achieve the grades to do so!

Finally, as well as your child's tutor who has been handpicked for Year 11 because of their expertise and subjects, Ms Charitou your year leader and deputy year leader, Ms Barrett, should be your first communication call if there is a problem. This year myself, Mr Taylor and Mr Roberts will be the Year 11 team and will be leading in ensuring your child fulfils their full potential. From our years of experience I do need to say that 100% attendance and punctuality to all lessons is the first base of being successful in Year 11, but as I have explained to students the secret ingredients of our success are our relationships and hard work. We look forward to meeting you at the year 11 Information Evening. Let this last leg of the GCSE journey begin!

Best regards

Ms J Waters

Executive Headteacher