

March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is very pleasing to see the majority of Year 11 students are focused and working hard towards the fast-approaching GCSE exams. As we enter these last few months, I am writing to highlight some key exam-related information.

In a change to recent years, exams will be taken in the main school hall, rather than in the Sports Hall. The reason for this is so students are as far away as possible from the site of the new building; during the mock exams, sound tests were done to ensure the hall is a space that will be undisturbed. To further restrict any disturbance, the catering for the school will be relocated away from the main hall so the Year 11 students are given top priority.

Important dates for the diary are:

- **Wednesday 8th May: Leavers Day.** On this day, students will have their final assembly; it is an important day for everyone in Year 11 when many bring old polo shirts or memory books in for classmates to sign. Please note students should bring a spare shirt in to sign and not sign shirts being worn as part of normal school uniform.
- **Thursday 9th May: GCSE exam timetable and Study Leave begin.**
- **Thursday 22nd August: Results Day at 10:00am** – further details will follow in due course.

When Study Leave begins from Thursday 9th May, students will have one of three options when not in an examination:

1. Study at home;
2. Attend a subject revision session. Attached you will find a timetable of subjects where a member of the department will be available in their room to answer any questions students may have and to offer 'hints and tips' for the exam; this timetable will also be on the school's website. The timetable has been devised to include, as far as possible, the full range of remaining exams, however it is restricted by the availability of staff and the date of the exam.
3. Revise in a supervised study room where students must revise quietly and independently using resources they have brought with them. Reminders of these study rooms will be posted daily in reception.

If students follow options 2 or 3, they must sign in and out at the main school reception and will be expected to follow the normal school rules, including those relating to mobile phones. They will not be permitted to 'come and go' during the day or wander around during lesson time. Once students sign out, they should not return to school and must continue their study at home (they are not allowed to be in for the day and sign out for lunch). This is to maintain a positive working atmosphere for the rest of the school community and to ensure we have accurate records in case of emergency. If students are coming in solely for an exam, they do not have to sign in or out as we will have registers from the examination.

Please note that, whenever students are in school (for exams and/or study sessions), they must be dressed in full school uniform.

It is obviously a very important time for the students and, with continued application and determination, we look forward to seeing many happy faces at 10:00am on Thursday 22nd August, when the long wait for their results will be over.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Patrick
Deputy Headteacher