

30 March 2017

SN/MtW/DF

Dear Parent/Carer

As your son approaches the end of Year 10 and enters the final year in his GCSE preparations, we feel that it is important that he experiences the formal examination process. Therefore, all Year 10 students will be sitting their 'End of Year' exams with the main body taking place during the weeks commencing Monday 24 April and Monday 1 May 2017. During this time they will sit a series of exams (the timetable is included with this letter) under exam conditions.

Your son should view this period of time as an opportunity to see how successful his revision and learning techniques are and how effectively he is able to cope with the often stressful examination conditions. When your son is not sitting an exam he will be allocated a supervised room in which to work quietly, so it is important that he brings relevant materials into school so that he can prepare for his next exam. The students will also be expected to treat the exams seriously to help them understand and develop appropriate 'exam etiquette'.

To make the exam period as effective as possible your son should be using the following weeks to prepare and organise himself; however, I appreciate that homework tasks continue to press. He should be spending time using a variety of activities ranging from making revision summaries from his class notes, using revision guides (Lett's Revision Guides and CGP Educational Books are useful and some departments sell them in school), using the BBC Bitesize website and testing himself regularly. Clearly, it is a fine balance between keeping up with deadlines and preparing for these exams, but it is likely that this will continue to be the case for your son until the end of Year 11.

Once the exam papers have been marked, you will receive a summary of your son's results. This will allow you to see where progress has been made and where there needs to be further time invested.

The school expects all of the students to take the exam period seriously. I hope to see your son achieving highly and he should be making large steps towards meeting his target grades. This will help him see that his revision is effective and give him an important confidence boost.

Finally, if you do have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Newell
Head of Year 10