

16th June 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

The current Year 11 students are coming towards the end of their summer exams and we want to take every opportunity to graduate our current Year 10 students into this vital year, with an array of wrap-around support and intervention, and the best possible starting point for a successful year ahead.

From Monday 19th June through until Thursday 29th June Year 10 will be sitting their mock exams. The format of the exams will closely reflect their experience in summer 2024 - which is of course the intention as we are keen to give them as much preparation as we can. They will sit examinations in all of the subjects which they study, in the academy exam hall. Each student has received a personalised exam timetable already.

Students entitled to access arrangements will receive them as they would in the summer exams. We believe that purposeful practice aids students in understanding the process and techniques associated with exams and helps alleviate some of the natural pressures.

Students' performance in these examinations, along with their teachers' professional judgement, will support us in deciding their class sets for Year 11 and the appropriate targeted and personalised intervention that will accelerate their learning and performance.

All students will start their new academic year on Monday 3rd July - so Year 10 students will become Year 11 students from this date and will start their new timetable as if it were September. This, in essence, provides students with an additional 3 weeks of Year 11 study and support, and they can really hit the ground running in September.

In supporting students we invest a significant amount of resources that they must take advantage of, this includes:

- High quality teaching and learning in the classroom
- Smaller than average teaching sets, typically 22 per group rather than 32
- One to one and small group tutoring sessions
- Afterschool 14:30 - 15:30 teaching sessions
- Online revision and intervention masterclasses accessed from home
- Careers and Post-16 guidance and applications

We navigate through Year 11 with a series of milestones, and students naturally see their outstanding outcomes become more secure through Praising Stars and their dedication to their studies. As in

other year groups, we offer a range of praise opportunities and rewards in recognition of their commitment.

As we head into the Year 10 mock examinations, we will provide every student with a Year 11 passport. This is simply a means of students tracking their commitment to being Year 11 ready and signing off on the attributes that will make them successful over the next year. They will collect stamps for aspects such as:

- 95% or above attendance from Monday 19th June - Friday 21st July
- Attendance to after school teaching sessions (at least two per week)
- Excellent attitude to learning in lessons
- No sanctions outstanding, no C5b or suspensions

Later this half-term, we will share the rewards that students will receive in response to achieving their passport stamps.

We thank you in advance for your support in ensuring that your child takes advantage of all the additional support that is available to them and that they commit to the personal qualities and attributes that are required for Year 11.

The Year 11 students that are soon to leave us will achieve incredible outcomes in the summer, a reflection of their hard work this last year and throughout their years of education. We believe that your child and their year group have the ability and attributes to also do extremely well and achieve record breaking outcomes in 2024.

Alongside this work, we also recognise that Year 11 can feel pressured, especially as we move closer to the exams, and while we offer a range of inclusion and wellbeing support systems, it is important that we continue to communicate with school and home with any worries or concerns, so that we can provide support as soon as possible. Please contact colleagues below if you or your child require support or information.

Mr Hazelhurst, Year 10 Learning Manager (Year 11 from September)

Mrs Jackson, Lead Learning Manager

Mr Titterington, Inclusion Manager

Mr Chancellor, SENCO

Mrs Tyler, Attendance Manager

Mrs Ellis, Safeguarding Officer

Over the course of the year, there will be a series of events where you will be welcomed into the academy to discuss your child's progress and workshops to support their preparation for their exams. You will also continue to receive their half-termly Praising Stars reports to track their progress and achievements. But also, please feel free to contact that academy at any time if you have any questions or concerns.

Please see below a brief list of the mechanisms and expectations to support your child as they begin Year 11:

- 100% attendance
- An excellent attitude to learning in the classroom
- Commitment to their Year 10 mock exams
- Attendance to after school teaching sessions
- Participation in intervention sessions such as bespoke one-to-one and small group
- Completion of homework tasks

We look forward to working together with you over the next year to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D Sheehan".

Danielle Sheehan
Principal