



TANFIELD
SCHOOL

HARD WORK | TRUST | FAIRNESS

Dear Parent/Carer

I want to thank you for all of your support during lockdown and in getting your child back to school this week. Year 11 have had a fantastic first week back. Their attitude to learning, attendance and uniform have been exemplary.

As we know, qualifications at GCSE and equivalent examination courses are extremely important. Many students who underachieve in key curriculum areas at school have to spend time in college continuing to study and then re-sitting important qualifications to try and improve their grades. This can be essential to ensure students can access the courses of their choice and get the job they dream of when they enter the world of work. Achieving a grade 5 or above at GCSE or a grade 6, 7, 8 or 9 for our students is a high priority for students to increase their career choices.

I know from speaking to other schools that our students have gained a big advantage over this period. Now we want to really push that advantage home over the coming months.

"Get Exam Ready" is a programme of after school support for all students throughout year 11. This programme of after school revision support is proven to help students achieve success. Hard work and thorough preparation do make a difference.

All students are following the full range of New Specification qualifications across the curriculum. These qualifications demand a great deal of knowledge and high level of understanding. Thorough preparation for the large number of examinations students must sit during May and June 2020 is essential. It is vitally important that students prepare well to avoid stress and worry in this key academic year.

To support your child throughout year 11 we have a comprehensive programme of study support. We expect all students to follow the programme of **"Get Exam Ready"** after school revision and study support. After the completion of lessons at 3.05 pm and a 5 minute break, all students will complete 50 minutes of revision in a key GCSE subject area. The timetable of after school support covers all areas of the curriculum. This ensures all students are supported with over 200 hours of revision as we prepare for examination success. This is our minimum expectation.

We have also introduced the **"Champions hour"** this year, which will run from 4-5pm. This is an opportunity for students to study independently in a computer room, supervised by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. This will be particularly beneficial for those students who struggle to work at home, have noisy siblings who may distract them, or have a lack of access to IT.

TANFIELD SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER Steven Clough BSc (Hons) NPQH

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In addition to **"Get Exam Ready"** and the **"Champions hour"** support, we also expect students to revise and prepare for examinations independently at home. This is essential if students are to achieve higher grades. All subject areas offer study support materials for revision at home and we organise timetabled subject support during holiday weeks. Timetabled revision sessions will be sent to you for the October, February, Easter and May holidays. Attendance at these key sessions is expected and will determine the level of success your child achieves.

As I stated earlier, **hard work and thorough preparation do make a difference**. In addition to the vital exam revision and study support it is essential that students have a very good attendance to lessons. Students **must not take holidays away from school** at any point during year 11. It is essential that during May week of year 11 all students are preparing for examinations. The time for play is when all examinations are completed, and students can look forward to success in August 2021 when results day arrives.

Get Exam Ready will begin on Monday 7th September. For any students who get a bus, there will be a 4pm bus to take students home.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S Clough
Headteacher

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