

## Dear Parent/Carer

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.

"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 numbers 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. All students are offered free drinks and snacks after the completion of lessons at 3.05 pm. After a 5 minute break all students then complete 50 minutes 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.

In addition to "Get Exam Ready" 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 Whit holidays. Attendance at these key lessons is expected and will determine the level of success your child achieves. This will also be part of the criteria for attendance at Prom. We expect 95% attendance to these sessions.

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 at lessons. Students MUST NOT take holidays away from school at any point during year 11. It is essential that during Whit 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 2020 when results day arrives.

Yours faithfully,

Mr S Clough Headteacher