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JMH/SHN/RSA

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 10 into 11 - Important Updates

As we near the end of the summer term, and as your child nears the end of their first year of Key Stage 4, I wanted to provide you with some important information to aid their transition to Year 11 – Senior Year.

PPE Results

As you are aware, your child recently received their Year 10 PPE results and have been given feedback on their assessments in lessons. They should now know exactly what they need to do to be able to make further improvements in their subjects so that they achieve their target grades by the end of Year 11. You will receive a final Year 10 report this week which details their current working-at grades in all of their subjects, alongside their end of Year 11 predicted grades and their attitude to learning.

Summer Work Packs

Last week, all students were given a series of summer work packs which we expect them to complete over the summer break. The work packs consist of revision and retrieval activities in English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science, History and Geography. We ask that students return the completed work to us in the first week back in September. All students who hand in completed work packs will receive points which will contribute towards our Points Mean Prizes reward scheme in Year 11.

It is really important that students are encouraged to complete these work packs over the summer as they not only contribute towards our rewards strategy in Year 11, but they also ensure that students do not develop learning gaps over the six-week break. Research shows that students who do not complete any revision or learning over the summer break return to school with wider learning gaps than before the summer holiday. We want all of our students to have a successful senior year, and these revision packs will support them in being able to start Year 11 with confidence.

Online copies of the revision packs can be found here: Summer Pack



Changes to Teaching Groups

The recent PPEs have provided us with valuable and accurate up-to date information on the progress that your child has made so far in Key Stage 4. To allow us to make sure that your child continues to be supported, we will be using this PPE data to make some changes to teaching groups. Any changes that we make will be in the best interests of each child to ensure that they are given the appropriate level of support, challenge and pace in lessons. Please make sure that your child is aware that they may well be in a different group with a different teacher for some of their subjects when they return after the summer break. Please prepare them for this possibility and remind them that any change we make is done with the students' best interests at the centre of our decision making.

Changes to Tutor Groups

To increase the amount of curriculum time given to English and Mathematics, tutor time in Year 11 will be given over to Period Zero. This means that students will have an additional 25 minutes of either English or Maths each day; these sessions will be delivered by specialist English or Maths teachers. These sessions are incredibly important and will target specific areas of weakness identified from the recent PPEs. This is something that we have done with all of our Year 11 students over the last couple of years and something which has had a great impact on students' confidence, attainment and attitude. Please make your child aware that, from September, they will be in a Period Zero group with students of a similar ability and will be doing additional English or Maths each day. This will replace the traditional tutor time model that they have had in Years 7-10.

Period Zero – The Rationale

- · There is a direct correlation between the amount of time a pupil spends in front of high-quality teachers, and the pupil's exam outcomes.
- · Period Zero ensures that every single child has access to additional opportunities to develop knowledge retention and application in the core subjects.
- · Through creating additional capacity, we can enable all students to have additional time with specialist teachers to support them in making exceptional progress.

It is, therefore, more important than ever that students are in school on time and prepared to learn.

Changes to the School Day

Now that we have completed our analysis of the recent PPE data, we are in a position to identify students who require further support in subject areas. From September, we will be putting on compulsory Period Six intervention sessions for students who need further support with their learning, allowing us to work with students in smaller group settings to support them with any gaps in their learning. We will be sending out letters to parents and students in the new academic year with details of the Period Six sessions that students are expected to



attend. We appreciate your support with ensuring your child attends these important, compulsory sessions.

Parental Information Evening

In September, we will be holding a Year 11 – Parental Information Evening in which we will be inviting parents in to meet with members of staff and hear information about how we can work together so support your child through Year 11, which can be a difficult year for many students. Further information will be sent about this in due course.

Thank you for all your support this year. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you next year to support your child through Year 11.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Mahon Vice Principal - Curriculum