

Year 11 Parent Notes

Winter Exam Results

Winter Exam Results were received on Friday in assembly. Students were also issued with their Flightpath and Approach to Learning grades. As always, there has been a feel of mixed emotions of very pleasing and rewarding results, as well as a few disappointing experiences. Some students were issued with Golden Tickets, ensuring early study leave two weeks before May half term.

All Learning Coaches, as well as Miss Bergamo and Mr Milne were on hand during break time and into Period 3 to support students who were feeling disappointed or surprised by their results. Support will continue to be offered into next week.

Where a student's Winter Exam result is more than a grade away from their benchmark grade, they may be asked to re-sit part of the exam or similar paper to improve the grade. Faculties will make this decision and communicate this to your child.

Students will have learned a great deal about how to revise, how to manage their time, how to further improve their exam technique, and perhaps even reflected on what they might need to change to maximise their potential.

Some tutor groups have shared their views on this Winter Exam session and the ones I have spoken to, or met with, agree that despite the anxiety and stress caused, overall this has been a good practice and a worthwhile experience.

Here are some of their views:

WWW (what went well)

- Students in general felt secure with the Foundation papers for the core subjects, but they have found the Higher tiers challenging
- Students felt secure in their exam responses for subjects where they had spent time with teachers revising
- disassembling questions and looking at modelled answers during lessons particularly helpful
- When provided with checklist of key areas to study and provided with focus for revision students were able to prepare themselves from home
- Students felt that the exams they sat later on in the timetable they were better prepared for as they felt they had longer to study and revise
- Positive relationships with the teacher made a huge impact on students' willingness to study hard and revise for those subjects. Some said they didn't want to let their teachers down so put in the extra effort for these subjects in particular.

EBI (even better if)

- Majority of students found it very difficult to focus when they had 3 exams on one day
- On certain days the heating was not working in the halls
- Students felt less secure and confident in subjects where there has been changes of staff and disruption to their lessons.
- Most were honest and said that they prioritised revision for the subjects they enjoyed the most.
- The majority felt that exams were bunched together on certain days and didn't feel they had enough breaks.

All these comments have been discussed with the Key Stage 4 team and shared with relevant departments. We will try to ensure that we improve on the points made and work even closer with Premises and Exams teams for a smooth run of the Summer exams.

Year 11 Progress Review Evening: Wednesday 20 December (4.30pm – 7.30pm)

Some students have already started making their appointments for Progress Review Evening. Please, talk to your child about subjects in which they are doing well and those where there is more challenge. We would recommend you see any subject where your child feels he or she may be a grade away from his or her benchmark.

We recommend you see any subject where your child feels they may be a grade away from their benchmark. We also highly recommend you see English and Maths teachers, and any other subject, which has started a new specification and is using the new grading criteria. Start the conversation now with your son/daughter: who would we like to see that evening? What subject is a concern? What subject are they doing really well in? Often strategies used in classes where your child is successful can be transferred to other classes where he or she isn't seeing so much progress. Plan ahead and ask your son/daughter to make the appointments as soon as possible.

Sixth Form Taster Lessons

Mr Bennett, Head of Sixth Form, has made sixth form lessons available for Year 11 students, who would like to join our sixth form next year. Some taster sessions have been running this week and the lists for next week are also collated.

Autumn B Period 6

Day	Subject	Room	Staff
Monday	Humanities	F23	APH
Tuesday	Science	S1	GMG
Wednesday	Creative Arts	Various	KLS
Thursday	English	H1	CPR
Friday	Computing/IT	IT3	LTU

With Best Wishes for a very good weekend,

Mrs D Evans

Year 11 Progress Leader

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