

February 2016

Dear parent/carer

Y11 update and additional learning sessions

Y11 is a critical and intense time. It is crucial that students, parents/carers and staff work together closely, from the start, so that achievement is high. There are now **fewer than fifty days** before the first summer examinations begin.

We have begun a regular programme of additional learning sessions, which are taking place, in the main, after 2:40pm each day. The timetable is as follows:

- Mondays – sciences
- Tuesdays – English
- Wednesday (before school) – PE – 7:30-8:15am
- Wednesdays (week 1) – option block A, plus the students who are working with BT mentors
- Wednesdays (week 2) – option block D, plus the students who are working with BT mentors
- Thursdays – mathematics
- Fridays (week 1) – option block B
- Fridays (week 2) – option block C.

Option blocks can be determined by referring to student timetables.

Those students who are required at specific sessions will be informed of this by their teacher/s. **These students must attend.** From next week onwards, the academy will be sending text messages to inform parents/carers of when their children must attend after school sessions. However, you are still welcome to contact the school to check whether your child is required to attend. A list of students required to attend will also be displayed, weekly,



within the senior year study zone. Those students who are not required are, however, welcome to attend nevertheless, on a voluntary basis. **The senior year study zone continues to open from 7:30am each day** and is an ideal venue to carry out some pre-school learning, while having a healthy, free breakfast at the same time. Please encourage your child to take full advantage of this opportunity. The study zone will also be open and supervised by academy staff **every day during the half term break, between 10am and 2pm**, for independent study.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that the Y11 homework expectation is **two hours per week per examined subject**. If you are concerned that your child is not doing this amount of homework please do contact the school **immediately** – we need to make the most of every moment of possible learning time.

In addition, we will be running a full set of mock examinations, straight after we return from the half term break. These will take place in full examination conditions, as part of preparation for the summer. It is even more critical than normal that students attend all day, every day – these examinations will be used to inform targeted revision and teaching sessions. Information as to the equipment which students are required to bring to examination and assessment sessions is provided separately – please ensure that students return with this equipment after the half term break.

We are organising a further, and final, parent/carer consultation event – information relating to this is provided in a separate letter.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

Amanda Phillips

Principal