



23 November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to update you with some key information as we approach the last few weeks of the Autumn term. As I have mentioned previously, we are expecting some fantastic results from our Year 11 cohort this summer and are currently putting together a package of support and intervention aimed at ensuring maximum use of time and resources to support and raise the achievement of all our Year 11 students at St Edward's.

One of these strategies was the Year 11 information evening held at the beginning of November which saw over 350 parents, carers and students packed into the hall to hear about the next few months and how we can maximise this time. Thank you to those parents and carers who were able to attend the evening and I do hope that this was beneficial and helpful as we move ever closer to exam season.

Pre Public Examinations(PPE)

As I am sure you are aware, Pre Public Examinations take place in the next couple of weeks. Below are some key reminders for your son / daughter.

1. You will note that not all subjects have opted to have a PPE examination. With many subjects following different assessment routes it is not always appropriate to have a PPE examination at this time. Any PPE examinations that take place at other points in the year will take place during normal lesson time in order to avoid disruption.
2. When students are not taking PPE examinations they will be following their normal timetable. There is no study leave!
3. Students will be allocated a room and seat for each examination. Please encourage your son / daughter to check the exam noticeboard before each examination so they know where they are going.
4. Students will need to bring the following equipment to each mock examination: pen, spare pen, pencil, eraser, ruler and calculator. They will be advised by their teacher if any further equipment is required for a particular examination.
5. The results of the PPE examinations will help us to check students are on track to achieve their target grades this summer.

English and Maths Revision Sessions

The English and Maths department continue to run revision and catch up sessions on the following days:

Maths – Monday

English – Tuesday

These run from 3.15pm to 4.30pm and form part of the extensive revision programme offered by all subjects. It is essential that your son/daughter attends these sessions as they are key to the success of each student. If for whatever reason, they are unable to attend these days, please ask them to discuss with their teacher to arrange another time slot. The full revision programme can be found on the Year 11 Information Evening Handouts. If you did not receive one of these please do ask your son / daughter to collect one from me.

Attendance

As previously mentioned, full attendance is crucial for all Year 11 students. Subject areas will be completing key elements of courses as well looking at specific exam focussed work. The Department of Education has found that an attendance of 90% in a school year can lower a student's performance by at least one grade. Evidence also shows that out of students who miss between 10% and 20% of school, only 35% manage to achieve five 9-5 GCSEs including English and Maths.

I would again like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and if you have any concerns or questions please do contact us at school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Barnett', written in a cursive style.

Chris Barnett
Deputy Headteacher