



Holly Lodge High School

College of Science

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Headteacher: Mr Paul Shone BA (Hons) MA

December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 11

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support during these challenging times. Your child has shown resilience and a positive attitude in working with the school to adhere to the guidelines and protocols that are in place at present to ensure students can learn safely. As we come to the end of the autumn term the following information is provided to support you and your child further.

Mock Examinations

Your child has sat mock examinations in all subjects during December 2020. These examinations have taken place under formal examination conditions and papers have been set in line with examination board criteria. This will help inform, along with other assessment data, Teacher Assessments should they be requested by examination boards in the summer 2021.

Mock Examination Grades Distribution

Your child will be reviewing their mock examinations in lessons, will receive detailed feedback and an examination score. The grades awarded for each subject will be distributed on the interim report (in place of a full written report due to the postponement of the mock examinations because of whole school closure) that you will receive prior to Year 11 parents' evening on Thursday 28th January 2021. Further details will follow on how to access teacher feedback during this evening which is most likely to be online via SchoolCloud.

DfE Guidance to Support the Summer 2021 Examinations

On 2nd December 2020 the Secretary of State for Education announced some changes to the way that students will be assessed in the summer 2021. This guidance can be found by following this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-support-the-summer-2021-exams/guidance-to-support-the-summer-2021-exams>. Please be aware that guidance changes on a regular basis and we will keep you and your child informed with updates.

Raising Aspirations and Achievement

Your child has started to have regular one to one discussions with a member of staff in the Year 11 team. These discussions focus on their academic progress, future aspirations including post 16 applications, accessing intervention and wellbeing.

Year 11 students are receiving ongoing Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG), through a series of assemblies, Connexions interviews and the personal development programme during morning form time.

Remote Learning

Following the whole school closure at the beginning of December 2020, Year 11 online remote learning is delivered via Microsoft Teams for 'live' lessons in line with the normal school timetable. Where a Year 11 student does not have access to an IT device and/or internet at home, paper based remote learning is provided. This will continue for any future Year 11 'bubble' or whole school closure.

If circumstances change in relation to this please contact either Mrs S Chahal schahal@holly-lodge.org or Miss C Knight cknight2@holly-lodge.org.

Holly Lodge Sixth Form Applications

We launched our online Sixth Form open event with Year 11 on 5th November 2020: <https://www.holly-lodge.org/sites/default/files/Sixth%20Form%20Virtual%20Tour/index.html>. You will find information regarding subjects and qualifications offered in our Sixth Form, entry requirements and the application process. Although our initial deadline was 18th December 2020, this has been pushed back to 10th February 2021 to take into account the disruption this term.

Wellbeing

We appreciate the uncertainties faced at this time can lead to increased anxiety for your child. Support is available via trained members of staff at our school; Mrs S Chahal (Head of Year 11) schahal@holly-lodge.org, Miss C Knight (Head of Year 11) cknight2@holly-lodge.org and Mrs S Mann (Student Safeguarding and Welfare Manager) SMann2@holly-lodge.org. Details of external support available can be found on our school's website.

Dates for Your Diary

- Year 11 Parents' Evening – Thursday 28th January 2021
- Deadline for Holly Lodge Sixth Form Applications – Wednesday 10th February 2021
- Year 11 Second Mock Examination Week – week beginning Monday 8th March 2021
- GCSE/Level 3 Results Day – Friday 27th August 2021

Again, thank you for your continued support and I wish you a restful and safe winter break.

Yours faithfully



Mr P Shone
Headteacher