

Dear parents/carers

Further to my letter in January, I am writing to you to remind you about the arrangements for the summer examinations 2017.

Study Leave for AS examinations

The situation that confronts all schools in the summer of 2017 regarding Study Leave is complex, due to the phased nature of the A Level subject reforms. Most students will have no AS examinations and it is important, therefore, that lessons continue as normal for all Year 12 students during the AS public examination period. Students sitting AS examinations will be allowed to take some study leave but this should be minimal. It is important that they do not fall behind in their other subjects where lessons will continue as normal.

As ever, we will work with individual students to help them plan the most effective way of managing the dual demands of their examinations and lessons. **If your son/daughter needs help with this please encourage them to talk to a member of the sixth form team.**

AS Public Examinations

It is important to remember that students studying unreformed A Levels and some B Tec courses, will be sitting public examinations that count towards their overall grade at the end of Year 13. These examinations are therefore particularly important and students should be preparing themselves diligently to achieve the highest grades possible. These subjects are: **Maths, Further Maths, Finance, Law, Food Technology, Media Studies, Sport, Applied Science, Child Development and Health and Social Care.** This also applies to those students who are sitting an AS in a reformed subject with the intention of dropping it for Year 13.

Year 12 Internal Examinations: 26-30 June 2017

These important examinations are for reformed subjects only and will largely determine whether students are able to continue into Year 13. They take place the week before students go on work experience. **During this week students will be on study leave and as a result will only need to be in school for their examinations.** Timetables will follow shortly.

On their return from work experience, results will be issued and students whose performance is a cause for concern will be invited to a meeting with their parents and a member of the sixth form team to discuss their place in the sixth form. **For this reason, students need to understand that these examinations must be viewed in the same way as public examinations and they will need to prepare just as thoroughly.**

Holidays in term-time

The summer term of Year 12 is a very busy one. There are AS examinations, internal examinations, work experience and important UCAS preparatory work. It is therefore critical that no holidays are taken in term time in line with established school policy.

This is an important term and students need to be fully focused on the important examinations to come and ensuring that they have organised their work experience, seeking support from the sixth form team and Miss Webb (Lord) as appropriate.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

With every good wish

Sean Downey

Director of Sixth Form

