

January 2022

Dear Parent

Year 12 Grade Review

Please find enclosed your student's recent Grade Review. This shows the most recent information regarding the grades projected by subject teachers, along with their January assessment grades (where applicable) and effort comments. If you wish to discuss any concerns arising, please contact the relevant Senior Tutor/Achievement Tutor via the Sixth Form Office.

There will be an opportunity to discuss the information in this Grade Review at the Virtual Parents' Evening on Thursday 3 February from 4.30pm to 8pm.

Target Grades

As no GCSE examinations took place in 2021, mapping GCSE grades based on Teacher Assessed Grades to Key Stage Five outcomes in 2023 is more complex and less certain than in the years before examinations were affected by the pandemic. We have reviewed the target grades issued in the Autumn Term and in a minority of cases there have been changes. These new target grades have been communicated to students via their teachers and should appear on their grade reviews.

Attendance in School

As stated in the Associated Sixth Form Attendance Policy, there is a strong link between attendance and achievement and we continue to urge students to attend all sessions at this important stage in their courses. Please encourage students to avoid absence if at all possible and to ensure that they do not make medical appointments during timetabled lessons.

Careers Evening

We are hosting a Careers Evening on Thursday 10 March from 6-8pm at St Aidan's at which employers and representatives from Higher Education Institutions will be present to offer advice and information. Further details will follow but you may wish to note the date for your diary.

Post-18 Options Evening

This event will be held on Thursday 28 April at 7.00 pm in Constance Green Hall at St Aidan's and will provide information regarding applying to university, apprenticeships and student finance.

Summer Term

Can we remind parents and students to avoid holiday bookings in the summer term as there are teaching and Sixth Form commitments taking place. Timetabled lessons continue as normal until the end of term on 22 July.

Examinations

In order to help us to monitor and track the progress of our Year 12 students, we will be holding formal mock examinations from Wednesday 27 April to Friday 20 May. A copy of the mock exam timetable will be available on each school's website in due course.

There are a number of Applied courses that are completing qualifications this summer. Students on these courses are sitting external examinations and the dates for these qualifications will also be published on both schools' websites.

There is no formal study leave period for any Year 12 students this year, although if a student has an external examination in the afternoon, they can use the morning of the exam for private revision.

Timetable Re-organisation

At the end of Year 12 we conduct a review of teaching groups and staffing arrangements and it is anticipated that a number of students will be re-allocated to new teaching groups, with a 'knock-on' effect in other subjects. Whilst we shall endeavour to minimise disruption, parents and students should be prepared for possible group changes in Year 13.

Please note that progression to Year 13 is not automatic and it will be subject to a review of attendance, behaviour, performance and work ethic throughout Year 12: **we are not able to offer students who are disappointed with their Year 12 performance the opportunity to return to classes to repeat courses in order to improve performance.** Whilst we understand there may be significant pastoral reasons for low attendance or under-performance, each case will be considered individually and will involve a discussion with the Senior Tutor/Achievement Tutor and, where necessary, the Director of Sixth Form.

Dress Code

May we take this opportunity to remind parents of the requirement of the Associated Sixth Form that students continue to wear smart, business-like dress. Students' lanyards should also be worn visibly at all times. This helps us to control the security of the school sites and to ensure that students provide a suitable role model for younger students and within the local community. Senior Tutors/Achievement Tutors reserve the right to send students home if they are inappropriately dressed.

Thank you for your efforts in supporting your student throughout this challenging academic year.

Yours sincerely



C I Kidman
Director of Sixth Form, St Aidan's



J Sharpe
Director of Sixth Form, St John Fisher

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