Dear Parent/Carer

We hope this letter finds you well following a restful bank holiday weekend.

We are writing to inform you about the Year 8 Exam Week commencing Monday 16th May. Students will sit assessments during normal timetabled lessons in the following subjects: English, Maths, Science, Geography, History and RS. Other subjects have assessed students continually throughout the year and will not hold exams during this week. Some subjects, such as MFL, will hold assessments later in the year. Students will be informed of the content that they need to revise by their class teachers in the coming weeks and preparations for the exam week will be discussed in year group assemblies and during form times. A timetable for the exams is attached with this letter.

We hope that this assessment period will begin to prepare our students for the rigours of revising for and sitting a number of exams, as they will do when they sit their public exams in Year 11. We will therefore be focusing on introducing revision techniques and developing the students’ existing revision skills through form time activities. Students will also be directed to helpful revision resources on the ‘Year 8 Team’.

Throughout KS3, we collate a list of students who we feel may qualify for access arrangements in their GCSE examinations. We test students for these access arrangements at the end of Year 9, in line with exam board guidelines, and these tests require robust evidence that we gather from the KS3 exams, amongst other sources. Therefore, we keep access arrangements to a minimum in KS3 to gain an accurate insight into the support students may need in the future for public examinations. Access arrangements for the KS3 exams are done at the discretion of the class teacher for a small number of students already known to the Learning Support Department who would not otherwise be able to access the exams.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions about any of the above.

Yours faithfully

Hannah Strickland Clair King

Head of Year 8 Assistant Head KS3