



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome to Year 10

Dear year 10 Parent/Carer,

We hope you have had a relaxing summer, and your child has had a good start to year 10. The atmosphere around school has been excellent and we thank our students for their positive contribution to the school community. We would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some key information as the students embark on this important journey over the coming months.

As you will know, Miss Reynard is Head of Year 10 whilst Ms Strickland is on her maternity leave. She continues to be the primary pastoral contact and is supported in this role by Mr Holdsworth (Assistant Head) who is responsible for KS4 progress. Mrs Kitching is our KS4 Student Support Officer; she has really enjoyed getting to know the students and will continue to provide pastoral and academic support throughout years 10 and 11.

Key Stage 4 Information Evening

In order for us to provide you with more information about the KS4 courses including the GCSE awards, we would like to invite you to our KS4 Information Evening on **Thursday 5th October**. The evening will include an introduction by our Headteacher, Mrs Dover followed by presentations from Mrs McQuire (Deputy Headteacher), Mr Holdsworth (Assistant Headteacher), Miss Reynard (Head of Year 10), Mr Walker (Head of Maths) and Mrs Byrne (Head of English).

The evening will take place in Constance Green Hall at 18:30 and should last for just under one hour.

Student Progress in Year 10

The progress of our students is affected by many factors both at school and at home and we are committed to working with you to maximise your child's chances of success next summer. At classroom level, teachers will adapt to the needs of their classes constantly, looking carefully at assessment results and responding to the needs of individuals. The majority of this will be done within the normal school day and may also include adapting the curriculum and schemes of work where necessary, coupled with a detailed intervention process. For students to maximise their chances of doing well, some students may receive extra support and this may be via parental request, teacher, form tutor or Head of Subject recommendation. These students are invited to extra sessions in small groups, they have their

Headteacher: Mrs S Dover

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timetables amended or they receive interventions such as mentoring or support in The Beacon.

Form time PSHE

This year we will continue to deliver a bespoke programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic education during form time in the morning. Students will follow the programme with their form teacher and will continue to have two religious assemblies per week.

Monitoring student progress in Year 10

Student progress will be monitored closely by staff throughout the year.

Thursday 5th October: KS4 Information Evening – 6-30pm Constance Green Hall

Tuesday 5th December: Progress Reviews sent to Parents and Carers

Wednesday 24th January: Discussion of progress at Parents' and Carers' Consultation Evening

Monday 22nd April – Friday 3rd May: Year 10 Mock Exams

Monday 1st July: Reports and Progress Reviews sent to Parents and Carers

Monday 15th July: Year 10 Wellbeing and Careers Day

Revision

Research informs us that regular testing and revision throughout the year has huge benefits for learning. As parents, we can also support learning by offering to test them and being aware of when tests and results are coming up. During the year we will work with the students to help them develop effective revision techniques, and subjects will be offering revision or booster sessions. The timing and location of these sessions will be provided to the students well in advance.

Support from parents

Success and progress in year 10 will be the result of a good partnership between home and school. The use of school planners enables a strong line of communication between parents and teachers, they support us in interacting regularly and keeping updated on important information. Please continue to look at your child's planner

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with them, encourage them to have a regular routine for checking their planner and sorting and organising themselves. We are aware they are getting older and probably feel that they have moved on from this, but organisation has never been more important for them.

In recent years we have learned about the benefits of exercise, and how a balanced diet and good hydration can positively affect attention and wellbeing. In addition, assemblies recently on the importance of sleep have highlighted to them how essential it is for students of this age to have at least nine hours a night. Probably the best thing for their progress next year is to help ensure that good routines are followed, and their use of technology does not affect their sleep and homework.

We hope that you have an enjoyable and relaxing Autumn term and we look forward to seeing you at the upcoming information evening. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require our support or need to discuss anything.

Mr Holdsworth – Assistant Head KS4

Miss Reynard – HOY 10

Headteacher: Mrs S Dover

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