

17th April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We are now within weeks of the year 11's sitting their first GCSE exam and they have been working immensely hard to gather as much information and support from teachers as possible before the exam season begins. We are proud of how they are conducting themselves in a time which can be both stressful and challenging.

With this in mind, it is vital that Year 11 continue to make the most of the time they have left, therefore we wanted to take time to remind you of the importance of attendance up until the end of the exam season. Students should be attending school every day to get the maximum number of hours of learning and support available to them. We understand that sometimes children are genuinely ill and of course you must be the judge of this. When your child is unwell, it can be hard deciding whether to keep them off school or whether or not to send them in, however the NHS have provided a helpful guide to support you in making this decision.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. GCSE exams cannot be taken in school at another time, so if your child is absent from an exam they will unfortunately not have the opportunity to sit the exam again this academic year due to strict exam conditions. Punctuality is equally as important and we are seeing an increase in Year 11 students arriving late to school. Students need to arrive on time to ensure they are not missing any learning opportunities and also so they have the maximum allocated time in their exams. Students arriving after the time stated by the exam board will not be permitted to sit that exam and the school has no control regarding this. I am sure you understand good punctuality and routines are crucially important skills for life. Please discuss this with your child.

Prom tickets continue to be available on Scopay at a cost of £35.00 a ticket. Please ensure you select 'Prom ticket 2024 27/06/24'. If your child is entitled to free school meals and you need support with payments, please contact Mrs Chin at the school.

The Prom Committee has continued to raise money for special extras for the evening. If you would like to donate to their fund, please feel free to do this via Scopay online. Please be aware this is separate from the ticket deposit and payment. It is titled '2024 Prom Donation THIS IS NOT A TICKET'.

We would like to thank you for your continued support, and please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries regarding this or any other matter.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Dummett
Head of Year 11

Mrs K Lloyd
Pastoral Support Manager Year 11