



21 July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Year 10 – The Journey Continues

With the 2019 – 2020 academic year coming to an end we look forward to the next academic year and the challenges and opportunities it will bring. I want to wish every one of you the best of luck moving into next year, you are all brilliant and with hard work plus perseverance you can overcome these challenges. Thank you for being the best year group! – Best wishes Mr Baylis.

I would like to thank Mr Baylis for taking on Head of Year 9 from January 2020 whilst I was overseeing the Mathematics department, he has done a brilliant job during the uncertain period we have found ourselves in and supported you throughout. I have enjoyed the role in the Mathematics department but it is great to be back and continue the journey as Head of Year for Year 10.

We can all agree that the last academic year has not been what any of us was expecting it to be, and has presented some unprecedented challenges to everyone, from moving to remote learning to the varying emotional impact that Covid-19 has had on everyone. Should any student feel that they need any support in dealing with returning to school, or support with dealing with any personal matters that have occurred during this time then please do not hesitate to contact me and I will endeavour to support. On an academic level the majority of the year group engaged well with the remote learning and strived to get the best out of this situation to reduce the impact on their learning. I would encourage those that have not been able to fully engage with work since March to use the summer holiday to catch up as much as they are able to. Doing this will really help when we return in September, particularly as this past year was the start of our journey towards the GCSE's.

When we return in September we will be continuing in our journey towards GCSE's in the summer of 2022. Whilst for some this may seem like a distant date, I want to encourage everyone to use this ongoing challenge as a driving force to be reinvigorated upon the return in September and come back to school with a drive and passion to reach their full potential and engage with all aspects of their education. I would like to go back to what I discussed in the Information Evening at the start of the last academic year, students can do this, they really can, but they need support from both the school and yourselves at home in order to do this. We are all a team and we need to work as a team to ensure that all students are successful. As such, I would ask that you use the summer holiday to discuss with your child the importance of their education and encourage them to engage fully and remain focused upon our return.

I would like to take this time to make you aware of some key events for Year 10 for the upcoming year; I look forward to seeing all of you there. I shall write to you in the new year to confirm the dates of these events.

- **Information Evening**
- **Progress Meeting**

I would also like to make you aware of the Pre-Public Examinations (PPE) that students will sit in Year 10 in the Spring term, this is a week in which students will sit examinations in every subject. I will discuss this in more detail during the Information Evening. The purpose of this is to give the students the full experience of sitting examinations in the same manner that they would in their actual GCSE's, whilst also enabling both teachers and students to see their attainment and then this can be used to target future learning and revision as the journey to GCSE's continues.

I am confident that we can continue to work together, with the students at the forefront, to ensure that our journey towards GCSE's continues in a positive manner.

Should you have any questions regarding the dates I have highlighted, or anything else that you would like to discuss, then please do not hesitate to contact me, via the school reception, on 01189668065.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Davies', written in a cursive style.

Miss B Davies

Head of Year 9