

February 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

I am writing to you with an update regarding curriculum changes at Park and with your child's Student Review Day appointment for Thursday, 13 February 2020.

### Student Review Day

Thursday, 13 February is Student Review Day. All students must attend an appointment with their mentor on this day, ideally with you too. The appointment will allow students, mentors and you to review their progress and attendance at this mid-point in the year.

Appointment times are enclosed within this letter. Please contact your child's Head of Year if you need to change your appointment time.

**Every student must attend their appointment. Non-attendance will be recorded as absent from school for the day.**

### Year 11

Student Review Day is also Mock Results Day. Year 11 have been studying hard for their exams and this day will enable them to experience collecting results as they will in the summer. Students will then attend a meeting with their mentor to review the outcomes and set targets.

Alongside mock results and mentor appointments, Year 11 students and their parents will be able to attend a revision workshop with Mr Roberson, sign on to GCSEPod to set revision resources and enjoy refreshments in the restaurant. I encourage you to attend where possible so that you can learn more about how to support your son/daughter in the run up to their GCSE exams.

Mr Roberson's revision workshops will run at 10.00am, 11.30am and 1.00pm. Students can select whichever time they prefer. There will be plenty of revision activities to keep you busy between your mentor appointments and the workshops. Please allow one hour for your time in school this day for the following:

- Mock Results
- Mentor appointment
- Revision Workshop with Mr Roberson (10.00am, 11.30am and 1.00pm)
- Refreshments
- GCSE revision resources

/continued overleaf ...





### **GCSE Course Updates for Years 8,9 and 10**

**Year 10** - Thank you to parents and students who have given feedback regarding our consultation about GCSEs due to complete at the end of Year 10. After careful consideration, we have decided that most GCSEs will now continue into Year 11. The demands of the reformed GCSEs and the amount of knowledge and recall required mean that many students achieve a better grade in Year 11.

Three courses which end in Year 10 are:

- Two year Dance course
- Catering
- Apex Construction Skills

These subjects will finish at the end of Year 10 as planned. Some students and parents have requested to sit English Literature and/or RE at the end of Year 10. We will support this and the students who have asked will complete these qualifications in Summer 2020.

**Year 9** - GCSE courses will all continue until the end of Year 11.

**Year 8** - Futures evening is on Thursday, 5 March and we encourage you to attend. This evening is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with core subject teachers and learn more about GCSE options. Year 8 choices will enable students to specialise within some subject areas during Year 9. Final option choices will not be made until Year 9, before beginning GCSEs in Year 10. Booking for this evening will open after half term.

### **Finally, a reminder of key dates for this term:**

- Thursday, 13 February – Student Review Day
- Friday, 14 February – Inset day
- Monday, 17 February to Friday, 21 February - half term
- Thursday, 5 March – Year 8 Parents' evening
- Friday, 6 March – Inset day
- Friday, 3 April – Race at our Place
- Monday, 6 April to Friday, 17 April – Easter break

We look forward to seeing all students and their parents on Thursday, 13 February.

Yours faithfully

Ella Capaldi  
Head of School