

17 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers of Y11 Students

STUDY LEAVE DURING MOCK EXAMS

We are very aware of the pressure mock exams have on students, even more so, since Ofqual have not yet released what the GCSE's will look like in the summer. Our students know and are aware that these mocks could well be part of the evidence to substantiate their overall grade if concessions are granted.

Therefore, to enhance our students' learning and to give them the best opportunity to revise independently, we have taken the decision that Y11 students will only come into school for their exams and leave site after they have finished. We have found in the past, that it is hard for students to have lessons before or after exams as their mind is only on the subject of their up and coming assessment. We do feel that this gives our students the opportunity to prepare thoroughly and to be in the right mind-set by only attending school for their exams as well as giving them the experience of what it will be like in the summer.

We do appreciate that not all students feel this way and from our experience "one size does not fit all", so for those students who do not wish to study independently, we will be offering quiet Learning Zones where they can study in school. Please know that this area will be staffed by teachers and it will be a strictly silent area. Students who wish to take up this opportunity and remain in school, will have to abide by these rules in order that others working in silence will not be disrupted. Students who have timetabled exams for morning and afternoon will also be able to use this provision for independent study in between their exams.

Yours faithfully

Mr Christian Cavanagh EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER