



25 September 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

September update for Year 11

This is the first of my monthly updates to you. The aim is to keep you informed on what is happening in Year 11, to inform you of important, forthcoming calendared events and also strategies which can help to ensure positive outcomes for your son/daughter.

Thank you for all your support with regard to preparing your son/daughter for the demands of Year 11. Having the right equipment for all lessons, completing homework and attending supportive study sessions are all essential for examination success; please would you ensure they maintain this throughout the remaining eight months as this will help greatly with the learning process and their final outcomes.

Today, your son/daughter will have been introduced to the Autumn Year 11 Supportive Study Programme during morning registration with their tutor. I have also attached an electronic copy for home use. Please ask your son/daughter to make a note on their phones which sessions they will be attending, including a reminder. All subject areas are included in this programme with the day, time and venue where your son/daughter can access additional support and help with the revision process. This has proven highly successful, especially when students target areas of concern. At this stage I would expect Year 11 students to attend at least three sessions per week minimum on top of any work being completed at home. Regular attendance to build a firm foundation of knowledge will help with the overall revision process for the Mock Examinations in November, and ultimately their final exams commencing in May.

Homework is a key part of the revision and consolidation process and is a useful indicator to your son/daughter's teacher of the progress being made. Please would you keep logging onto Satchel One to make sure the homework is being set and, more importantly, completed. Also, to support them in this process, GCSE POD are doing a free webinar based around the theme of Motivation and Mindset which I would thoroughly recommend signing up to - and it's FREE!

The webinar is being led by Cameron Parker on Tuesday 6 October 2020, 6.00pm–7.30pm. Cameron's mission is to lead the younger generation to success; he is a renowned, world-class, youth coach and speaker. Cameron has spoken on stages both big and small, across the UK and Europe, educating and inspiring thousands of young people to level up their lives and upgrade their mind-sets. In this 60-minute webinar students will learn: (1) How to prepare for the new school year, so that they can get the grades they deserve; (2) How to get motivated, when they really can't be bothered; (3) How to bounce back from lockdown with confidence; (4) How to use anxiety and stress to their advantage; (5) How to use school, so that they CAN have the future they want. This will be the first of many webinars to come. It is online, so they can participate from the comfort of their own home, and there won't be any pressure as their identity will remain anonymous. I will also be posting this on Satchel One for all Year 11 students. Please use the link below to register:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1631254551890535951>



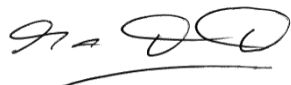
In light of Covid, our planned parents' information evening scheduled for the beginning of November has been cancelled. Instead, I have asked curriculum areas to put together an audio/video presentation for you and your son/daughter to access from our website which will address the following important areas:

- How to succeed in that particular subject area - 'A student's guide'
- What parents can do to support home learning
- Useful resources and websites to support the learning and retention process

I strongly believe these resources will support all parties concerned, especially in the run-up to the November mock examinations and beyond. I envisage these resources being made available to you from mid-October (more information to follow).

Any feedback concerning what we are doing at school for Year 11 is greatly appreciated. As always, if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact your son/daughter's classroom teacher, Head of Year or myself.

Yours sincerely



M A Taylor
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Calendared events:

6 October	Motivational webinar by Cameron Parker
12 October	Year 11 Progress Check window opens
5 November	Year 11 Progress Check home to parents
TBC	Parent/student Curriculum presentations available on the Plymstock website