

March 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Re: Year 11 Study Leave

Recently you will have received your daughter's review grades and hopefully will have discussed them with her to decide perhaps which subjects need more effort or perhaps identify a common theme which she may need to concentrate on.

The actual GCSE exams are now rapidly approaching, with just under four weeks to go before Easter and another four weeks after Easter before the exams start on May 14<sup>th</sup>, so it is vital that students heed the advice of their teachers and organise their time carefully. This means that there are less than 20 lessons left for some subjects so these hours of study must not be wasted and it is important for everyone to be focussed.

Whilst the behaviour of year 11 continues to be good it is essential that in these next few weeks, this continues and all lessons are free from disruption by others. Therefore from 12<sup>th</sup> March we will begin our annual "3 strikes rule". This essentially is a no tolerance approach to any behaviour that disrupts the learning of others and means that if a student gets 3 strikes against her name between 12<sup>th</sup> March and the last exam, including study leave on the school site, she will not be allowed to go to the Prom at the end of June.

A student could be given a strike for any of the following:

- Being sent to the silence room
- Truancy from a lesson
- Swearing/direct verbal abuse aimed at a member of staff
- Being given an Internal exclusion or being put on guidelines

A member of staff will inform myself or a member of the Senior Leadership Team of any behaviour that may warrant a strike and if agreed, then a member of SLT will see the student and issue a strike.

I will then email home to inform parents that their daughter has been given a strike and explain how many "lives" are left.

This will all be explained to students in an assembly during this coming week so they are clear of our expectations regarding behaviour and also that the three strike rule will begin on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully, all students will understand why we need to implement this rule and realise that it is because if they decide to disrupt a lesson then it will affect, not only themselves but also their peers.

Here are some important future dates for year 11, but I will send more details regarding each nearer the time.

Date	Event
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Email home to parents about study leave and 3 strikes
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Assembly to explain 3 strikes rule and study leave to students
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	3 strikes rule starts
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	End of spring term
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term begins English PPE
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	MFL oral examinations

Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Last full day in school for Year 11
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> May onwards	GCSE'S start - Expectation is that students are in lessons as normal, or in exams, or studying at home and coming in for exams or studying in an allocated study room See further information below.
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Final GCSE exam
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Brighton? To be confirmed
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	6 <sup>th</sup> form Induction Day
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Leavers Assembly Year 11 Prom

- During the exam period from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May onwards we recommend that your daughter studies in school and attends all lessons.
- Revision lessons will continue in school until the last exam in the subject has been taken but, it is your choice whether or not your daughter attends these lessons or works independently at home. Some girls prefer the school routine and environment, others prefer the flexibility of being at home.
- During the study leave period, in addition to the lessons still running, we will try to provide 3 rooms for the girls (1 for silent working, 1 for group work/quiet working and 1 for noisier working/relaxation). If possible we will try to provide a room with computers to be available during lunchtime but due to the demands of the rest of the school, this may not always be possible.
- Full school uniform will be worn at all times when in school throughout the exam period.
- Three Strikes Rule applies during this period
- Students should only sign in and out of school once per day – they will not be able to come and go as they please. We will, however, talk students through the process nearer the time.

We have already discussed revision techniques and many ideas were included in my last email, and hopefully your daughter now has a pile of revision aids following the PPEs in all her subjects. One of the most important revision aids will be to have a calendar showing the time and dates of the exams in May and June so that your daughter can work backwards and slot in when she will be revising different subjects. Remember that it always a good idea to have catch up slots and build in a time for relaxation.

If you or your daughter are overwhelmed with all the information and she does not know where to start then please advise her to come and talk to myself, her tutor, subject teacher or anyone – do not suffer in silence. Sometimes a small snippet of information or a slightly different approach to working can make all the difference.

We appreciate that this is one of the busiest and most intense times of your daughter's school career so far but you and she will get through it and in less than four months it will all be over. In the meantime if there is anything you need help or advice with then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Wendy Holland  
Head of Year 11