

7 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 12 Internal Exams**

It hardly seems possible, but the Year 12 internal exams for all exam-based A-level / BTEC / CNAT subjects begin w/b Monday 15 April 2024 and our thoughts turn towards the final preparations for these. These exams do not contribute to the final grades, but do allow us to check that students are on track and in a position to move forward into Year 13. Where grades don't suggest this, students will resit that paper or subject in June so that we can confirm their progression, or discuss alternate plans.

### **Study Time**

Outside of normal timetabled lessons, all students should be spending **at least 15 hours per week on study**. National research as well as our own experiences suggest that students who achieve the top grades/make the most progress will spend 10 hours per subject per week on study. Study periods should now be used exclusively for these purposes.

### **Paid Work**

Throughout KS5 we have advised that students should take part in no more than 10 hours paid work per week. Over the coming weeks and certainly during the scheduled exams, we suggest that students put paid work on hold if possible so they can concentrate fully on their exams.

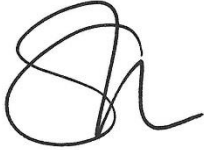
### **KS5 Study Plans**

There are many approaches to study and each student will have their own methods of reviewing key materials and revising content. There are five basic principles that will make study more effective:

- Having a clear weekly timetable for study with sessions equally divided between all subjects.
- Approaching each study session with a learning aim linked to the subject specification content.
- Regularly testing keywords and concepts supported using revision cards or Up learn where applicable.
- Start with the more difficult content or content that is less well known, using feedback from past mocks / past paper practice where applicable.
- Maintaining an equal balance between purposeful study and rest and relaxation.

Finally, a note from me to say I will be on medical leave from Friday 8 March. I'm hoping to be back working before we break for Easter but please contact either our Director of KS5 [Michael.puttock@mrc-academy.org](mailto:Michael.puttock@mrc-academy.org), or our Assistant Principal for KS5 [roger.burton@mrc-academy.org](mailto:roger.burton@mrc-academy.org) in my absence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'L' and 'S' followed by a short horizontal stroke.

Mrs Lisa Shadbolt  
Sixth Form Manager