



Dear Parents and Carers

We wanted to write to you with information regarding our plans in support of Year 11 students and preparing them for their GCSE examinations at the end of this very important year. As you will be aware, we made sure all students had the opportunity to experience the Sports Hall exam set-up at the end of the Summer Term, just before Work Experience. The purpose of this was to assess their progress in their GCSE courses, inform teacher planning to address any gaps in learning, and give all students an understanding of the formal exam experience to learn from.

The DFE have asked all schools to undertake a formal assessment in exam conditions for students in Year 11 and keep those assessments as evidence, in the unlikely, yet possible case that there is future disruption to the Summer examination schedule. To ensure this assessment is the best reflection of the learning and performance of your child we will be undertaking this more formal assessment opportunity in the Sports Hall during the Spring Term with Option Exams w/c 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and Core Exams w/c 27<sup>th</sup> February. These will be fuller exam papers and similar to normal final GCSE papers in terms of length.

The next opportunity for students to practice preparation and exam techniques will be during the November Exam Week. These will be run, in class throughout normal lessons.

These exams, will focus on learning from the start of this term and in some cases revisit key foundational learning from Year 10 and will take place as follows:

Option Exam Week – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Core Exam Week – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Teachers will direct Year 11 this week detailing the topics students should be re-calling and practicing in preparation for effective use of half-term. Students need to find a balance of having some down time to relax, but also working daily to review the learning which has taken place since the start of Year 11 and those topics shared by class teachers.

A reminder that our practice for progress materials and videos can all be found on [www.warlinghamtl.co.uk](http://www.warlinghamtl.co.uk). Students should be familiar with some of these techniques already from Year 10 and we encourage them to explore new techniques to improve their memory and re-call skills. Please remember there are sections for students and parents on the website.

So far this term our focus has been on a positive start to Year 11 and trying to develop good learning habits, build memory and practice re-call regularly as we build towards the formal exams in the Spring and Summer Terms.

There are several important things to understand and work towards from this point forward:

1. Attendance is really important. The best learning takes place in everyday lessons so please try to attend every day.
2. Be **ON TIME** for lessons – the start of the lesson is a key part where Teachers explain the focus and often re-cap previous learning to revise content and check understanding.  
**If you are late to lessons you are missing important re-capping activities.**
3. Participate in the learning – join in, answer questions – try hard – see mistakes as opportunities to learn – they are part of good learning and will build confidence.
4. **Do use Warlinghamtl.co.uk and watch the videos and try new ways of memorising and preparing.**
5. Your final grades this summer will be dependent upon how well you do with your KAP assessments, classwork and homework. Please continue to put effort into all these areas as they all provide chances to show learning and offer the chance to demonstrate knowledge and understanding as well as show your teachers any gaps in your learning.

The Year 11 Parents Evening will be on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023. This will allow Teachers, Parents and Students to discuss progress to date as well as preparations for the Spring Term Exam Week.

We wish all students a good final week of this half term and hope they have a good half-term break with a balance between rest and preparation for the return to school.

Yours faithfully

Mr Day



Deputy Headteacher

Mr Foster



Headteacher