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Dear Year 11 Parents and Carers

Thank you all for engaging in the Year 11 online Parents' Evening at the start of the term. During this, students were encouraged to record a number of improvement targets for each subject, I hope these targets provide a focus for revision as we move into the next period of time.

My senior team have started the second round of Year 11 interviews, the first round occurring last October. These interviews provide us with an opportunity to congratulate students on their achievements thus far, discuss any areas of concern and signpost students to where support can be found.

Whilst I would never want a youngster to be defined by examination grades, they are the golden tickets that provide access to future opportunity. All subjects are important and there is no soft option at GCSE, however as I am sure you appreciate, achieving good passes in the access subjects of Maths and English provides a firm foundation to move forward. Such is the importance of these subjects, students who do not achieve higher passes have to carry on with them at their post-16 providers. For Year 11 over the next few months, they need to see GCSEs as their 'job'. Attendance at school accounts for about 25 hours of this, they should then aim for another 12-15 hours, completing a combination of homework, revision or attending revision sessions in school. Many students have spoken to me about the improvement they have made between the Year 10 and Year 11 exams and put this down to revision.

Revision Workshops

I am very grateful for the benevolence of my colleagues giving up their time to organise revision classes. This is not part of the day job! Mr Bamford has circulated on Year 11 Teams a file of revision opportunities listed day-by-day from now until when the Year 11 students leave; this will be displayed in Year 11 tutor rooms too. This document was also emailed to you on Friday 27th January. A link to these revision classes can be found [here](#).

Some departments have finished teaching the subject content and have ample time to complete thorough revision in class, so these do not feature in the file - or at least in its first iteration.

Exam Contingency Day - Wednesday 28th June 2023

I also want to take this opportunity to remind you of the Exam Contingency Day. The date that has been set aside as the contingency day should sustained national or local disruption arise during the June 2023 examination series. This means that all exam candidates must be available to sit exams from the start of the exams until Wednesday 28th June 2023. This date is not a school decision and does apply to all candidates in all schools. The decision to introduce an exam contingency day comes following the tragic events in the last few years: namely the Manchester attacks and the Grenfell Tower fire. The Joint Council for Qualifications decided that they need the option to postpone an exam in the event of an incident and rearrange for a later date to allow all students a fair and equal chance.

Year 11 Last Day

Finally, Year 11's last day in full time school will be on Friday 26th May. By then examinations will have started and these will be interleaved between lessons and revision sessions. Student exams will then continue after the Whitsun holiday. I will write to you again nearer the time to provide more detail.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely



Mr M Quinn
Headteacher