

July 2017

Dear **Parents and Carers,**

Today your child has received their mock examination results in the same way that they will be receiving their actual results in August 2018.

In some cases your child may be disappointed or upset about the result they have achieved. Some will be rightly proud of how well they have done and it is these students that have already started to get into good habits regarding exam practice. I am hopeful that this experience will help spur students on as we move into year 11.

Why have we done this? Essentially, it is to improve our students' grades. We have chosen this particular time because there is still time for students to make changes to how they work so that they can achieve their potential. For some it's an effective 'wake-up call' and for others it's a measurement point which confirms the progress they are making.

It is important that these results are seen in context as students are still one year away from the final examination and there is still a great deal of content, skills and techniques to be covered in lessons. It is unlikely that many students will have already reached their GCSE targets as there is still a year to go.

If your child is worried or stressed by these results then it is important that he or she (or you as parents) contact your child's tutor before we break up. The absolute message for our young people to hear is that there is time to improve and attain the grades they want.

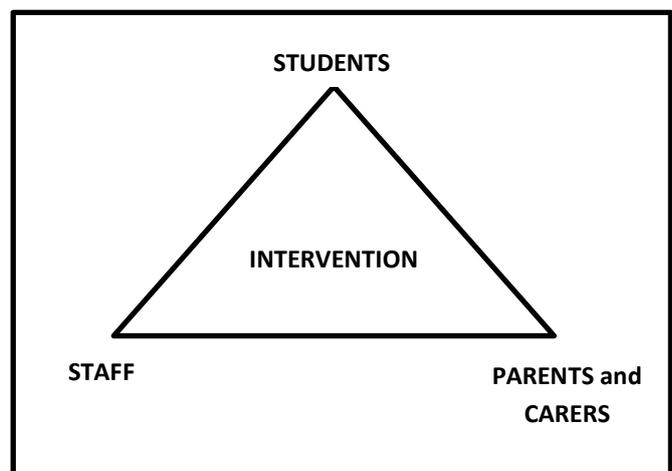
As I advised you in the letter that accompanied the recent report, another purpose of the Pre Public Exams (PPEs) is to advise students and staff of areas that need to be worked on in order for your child to maximise their potential.

This is now of vital importance as we move into Year 11 - We are a partnership and we all have an equal part to play in the future prospects of your child.

These results will now form the intervention strategy for the year group. Because we are conscious of our first GCSE year and the need for our young people to do

well, we have appointed Ms Sharon Eales as an Assistant Principal who will oversee the intervention programme across the school. She will also carry on as Head of English where

she has a track record of results far in excess of national. I cannot over emphasise the importance of your support for the intervention process because unless both you and the students do not engage then it will not be successful.



There will be further mocks in November 2017 and students need to start planning for these now. Regularly reviewing their work and creating a revision plan are the first steps in helping make this a measure of the progress that they are making. There is a lot your child can do over the summer whether this is through reviewing their class work books or using revision guides to look at areas where they need to improve. It is also a good time to read set text English books. There are many websites that can help too:

Students

<http://getrevising.co.uk> and <http://www.revisionworld.co.uk> – have lots of tips and techniques regarding revision including helping create a revision plan.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize> and <http://www.s-cool.co.uk> - have a wealth of resources for every subject.

Examination Board websites have lots of practise papers and resources for free.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/>

<https://www.pearson.com/uk/learners/secondary-students-and-parents.html>

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/>

<http://www.wjec.co.uk/>

Some subject specific websites

<http://www.businessstudiesonline.co.uk>

<http://www.mr-dt.com/>

<http://www.sparknotes.com/> (English Literature)

<http://www.revisioncentre.co.uk/gcse/english/>

<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk>

<http://www.rgs.org/GeographyToday/Geography+Today.htm>

<http://www.teach-ict.com>

<https://corbettmaths.com>

<https://hegartymaths.com/>

<http://media.edusites.co.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/>

Parents

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-gcse-9-to-1-grades-coming-soon>

<http://www.thepurplepumpkinblog.co.uk/gcse-revision-tips-for-teens-and-their-parents/>

<http://www.cityleicester.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Parents-guide-to-revision-GCSE.pdf>

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources/gcse-exam-revision/parents>

<https://www.mumsnet.com/education/exam-survival-tips>

Next academic year is an important one for your child and we want to ensure that they are best placed to start the year as well as they can.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D. Mumford

Vice Principal – Outcomes and Standards