



23 May 2019

Dear Parents/Families

I know you will join us in congratulating Year 11 students in the way they have conducted themselves during what has been a hard week of GCSE exams. This week they have sat papers in all of the core subjects and a number of Options subjects. We have been impressed with the mature way they have approached the examinations and they continue to make us very proud.

We have received a number of requests from families for their son to study at home rather than continue to attend full time school. From experience we know that some students can get to a point where they are managing the pressure of the examinations better by working under their own steam at home. Although we have said that the official date for Year 11 'study leave' is from after the afternoon Science paper (Biology 2) on Friday 7 June 2019, I am writing to inform you that in order to take many families requests into consideration I am happy for there to be a degree of flexibility with immediate effect.

**Lessons will run as usual** and there will continue to be master class revision sessions, similar in style and timing to the sessions run this week, with specific details to follow. Attendance at these sessions will be entirely elective and students may choose to study at home. Allowing you – the people who know him best, to make the decision.

### **Registering When on Site**

When attending examinations students will be registered in the exam room and will be registered as usual when attending timetabled lessons. All students who are attending revision sessions or who are using study facilities at the academy outside of this must sign in and out at the reception. Students can elect to attend their normal timetabled lessons throughout the week commencing Monday 3 June, to attend the bespoke final revision sessions (immediately before the exams) or to study in the Library. The library will also be open to Year 11 students between Monday 3 June and their final GCSE exam, if electing to study in this space students will be expected to revise quietly and independently.

### **Arriving for Examinations**

The storage room will be open 15 minutes prior to the start of each exam and students should assemble for exams in the Dining Room in good time enabling them to focus their attention and seek advice from staff should they need to. A light breakfast will continue to be available to students prior to each morning exam and will be served until 8.20am in the Dining Room. If electing to attend only the exams (and not the sessions before the exam) we ask that the pupils do everything in their power to arrive approximately 15-20 minutes before the start of the exam, rather than any earlier.

### **Expectations**

Students must wear school uniform when attending the above lessons / revision sessions and in the GCSE examinations.

As we continue through the exam season please do not hesitate to get in touch if there is anything we can do to support our students and of course their families.

Kind regards,

C Nelson

Head of School