

9 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

With two weeks left to go before the October half term, I would like to communicate with you how well Year 11 students have started this academic year. Students have shown determination to overcome the challenges they have faced. I am proud of how they have adapted to new routines. I would like to thank you for your support at home, ensuring students come to school prepared each day with the resources they require, face coverings, their blue lanyard and the correct school uniform; this really helps them to start the day positively. Whilst many students are demonstrating a positive attitude towards their learning, I am aware it has been difficult for some and I appreciate they may still have concerns and worries ahead of them. Therefore, I would like to give you an outline of the support we are offering over the next few months:

## Wellbeing

We would like to equip students with knowledge and understanding of how their brain and body reacts under stress and when facing challenges. Equally important is ensuring they are aware of and able to use a range of strategies which can support them through difficult times. All Year 11 students have had one tutor group wellbeing session, during a PE lesson, led by our school counsellor, Tammy Enright, and they will receive a second session before the end of November. Following these sessions Tammy will provide drop in sessions for smaller friendship groups, to support students in applying these strategies to specific situations. Wellbeing activities and strategies will continue to be a focus throughout Year 11.

## Pre-Public Exams (PPEs)

As you are aware Year 10 PPEs were cancelled due to school closure. We appreciate this is important to students in experiencing the exam process and in identifying what grade they are currently working at under exam conditions. We would like to reassure you we are making plans for students to be able to sit their PPEs and Mrs Boddy, Deputy Headteacher, will be communicating the information and arrangements for Year 11 PPEs in November.

## Revision

In preparation for PPEs and GCSE exams it is important students identify what revision techniques and strategies work best for them. These strategies are personal to each student and what may work for one, may not work for another. To support students, and you as parents and carers, I am in the process of producing materials to help guide them through this process. These materials will then link directly to Tutor Time activities allowing them to embed these skills. I am also looking into arranging after school provision to help support students with their study skills. To enable them to manage their time effectively I have also attached the Year 11 Home Learning Timetable.



Supporting Year 11 is my top priority; I hope the resources and opportunities available will help them through this important year.

Yours sincerely,



**Miss Rachael Lissaman**  
**Year 11 Raising Standards Leader**

