

18 October 2019

**Letter to all Parents/Guardians of Year 11**

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Year 11 Interim Report**

I am pleased to enclose your son/daughter's first Year 11 interim report. This forms part of our cycle of reporting over Key Stage 4 and reflects the progress he/she has made following his/her next steps targets report and our last Parents' Evening in June. The report also highlights areas for improvement. The grades and effort, behaviour and homework descriptors are explained on the reverse of this letter.

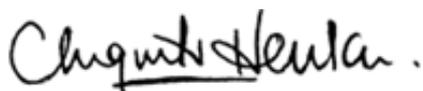
We would be very grateful if you could talk to your son/daughter about his/her grades and reflect on his/her strengths. Where necessary, we ask you to focus especially on any significant gaps between his/her forecast and target grades and what he/she needs to do to close them. His/her teachers will provide advice and guidance. Your son/daughter will be working on a range of controlled assessments, in subjects where these still exist, and working towards his/her mock exams and final GCSE exams next summer. The next 8 months will be vital in ensuring that your son/daughter achieves the best possible exam outcomes that they are capable of. It is vital that he/she works hard, takes advantage of the many resources, top up and revision sessions that are available to him/her in school, and aims for attendance as close to 100% as possible. Research has shown that poor attendance at school can significantly impact on a pupil's academic outcomes, and 'Persistent Absentees', with attendance of less than 90%, are at serious risk of failing to achieve their full potential. However, it is not too late to turn this around by attending school regularly between now and the exams.

Your son/daughter has received their mock timetable. Our main Year 11 mock examinations begin on Tuesday 26 November (with the Art/Textiles practical exams and Languages Speaking exams prior to this) and we strongly recommend that all pupils prepare for this intensive period of exams by beginning their revision now and I advise you that support materials, including a template for a revision timetable, are on or signposted in iDeer. Ideally pupils should be spending a minimum of two hours a day on revision activities, more at weekends and over half term, and the notes they prepare now will help them when they revisit topics again in preparation for their actual exams in May/June 2020.

Pupils will receive their mock exam results on Friday 10 January 2020 and we would welcome the opportunity to follow these up with you at our Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 30 January 2020. However, for those pupils we feel would benefit from a more immediate conversation about their learning and progress, we will be inviting parents to an additional KS4 Parents' Evening on Tuesday 12 November 2019.

You may find it useful to refer to this report and your son/daughter's mock exam results when you prioritise which teachers you would like to see in January. Our final Year 11 report will be shared with parents in March 2020. Please do not hesitate to contact specific teachers by email where you have concerns about your son/daughter's progress.

Yours sincerely



Chiquita Henson  
**Headteacher**

## Interim Report – codes explained

The Year 11 interim report has an attainment grade for each subject and this reflects the pupil's current forecast grade based on on-going teacher assessments.

In Key Stage 4 attainment is expressed either as a GCSE grade 9-1 or Applied Qualification grades are as shown in the table below:

| Abbreviation | Applied Qualification Grade  | Abbreviation | Applied Qualification Grade |
|--------------|--|--------------|-----------------------------|
| DN*          | Distinction *  | DN           | Distinction                 |
| ME           | Merit  | PA           | Pass                        |
| L1           | Level 1  | L2           | Level 2                     |
| NYC          | Not yet complete due to insufficient assessed work completed at this stage |              |                             |

For the purposes of the report, the GCSE grades are further divided into 'fine' grades, so a 7/8 would be a high 7 for example.

The 'target grades' are based on a pupil's prior attainment and these are the grades he/she should be aiming to achieve or exceed. They are not a ceiling for achievement.

The report also has grades for effort, homework and behaviour. These are marked as EX (Excellent), GO (Good) or NI (Needs Improvement). Where the homework grade is blank it means the subject does not set homework (eg: Core PE). The descriptors for these grades are tabled below:

| Grade Descriptors |  |  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Area              | Excellent  | Good   | Needs Improvement  |
| Effort            | Is consistently... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged in all aspects of the lesson</li> <li>Prepared for learning</li> <li>Thirsty for knowledge</li> <li>Working well in groups as well as independently</li> </ul>                                   | Is mostly... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged in all aspects of the lesson</li> <li>Prepared for learning</li> <li>Thirsty for knowledge</li> <li>Working well in groups as well as independently</li> </ul> | Is rarely... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged in all aspects of the lesson</li> <li>Prepared for learning</li> <li>Thirsty for knowledge</li> <li>Working well in groups as well as independently</li> </ul> |
| Behaviour         | Always... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cooperate and ready to learn</li> <li>has a positive attitude</li> <li>properly equipped for the lesson</li> <li>promotes learning and supports teaching</li> </ul>   | Mostly... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cooperate and ready to learn</li> <li>has a positive attitude</li> <li>properly equipped for the lesson</li> <li>promotes learning and supports teaching</li> </ul>       | Rarely... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cooperate and ready to learn</li> <li>has a positive attitude</li> <li>properly equipped for the lesson</li> <li>promotes learning and supports teaching</li> </ul>       |
| Homework          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consistently meets the deadlines</li> <li>Going above and beyond in effort when working on homework tasks (very high levels of detail and well-presented)</li> <li>Thorough use of time when completing homework</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mostly meets the deadlines</li> <li>Homework is completed to a good standard (sufficient detail and well-presented)</li> <li>Good use of time when completing homework</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sometimes fails to meet deadlines</li> <li>Completed to an insufficient standard (is rushed or lacks detail)</li> <li>Insufficient time is spent completing the homework</li> </ul> |

### Helpful resources:

- 'One Stop Revision Shop' on the School's iDeer page. On each Faculty's page are useful materials and links.
- [www.getrevising.co.uk](http://www.getrevising.co.uk)
- BBC GCSE Bitesize
- Exam Boards websites for past papers and answers, please refer to the School Website/Parents/Exams and scroll down to 'Useful Links'.