Our Ref: SMJ/ajh

27 March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Easter Update for Sixth Form**

It’s been an incredibly busy half term for students and sixth form staff as coursework has been completed and Year 12 and 13 students begin the preparation for their summer examinations.

On Monday 25th March 2024, Year 12 and 13 Students received an assembly from the examinations officer about expectations of exams. Year 13 examinations that start in May and your child should now have received an examination timetable. You will also have received a letter from Mrs Allitt in which she outlines the exam arrangements and emphasises the expectation that *students continue to attend lessons right up until the last exam* in that subject.

Students themselves have been given guidance about how to prepare for examinations (including how to create a revision timetable and the types of revision which are most effective) and more information for parents about how to support student preparation for public examinations will also be sent out prior to the Easter Holiday.

**UCAS and Post 18 Pathways**

Many Year 13 students have now received all their UCAS offers and I am pleased to note that we have a number of students who are undergoing the arduous selection procedures for apprenticeships and employment too. We wish them every success. For those students who are still awaiting offers, all offers should be received by 16th May. You must the accept those offers by 6th June. Please keep an eye on the deadline for acceptance through UCAS as the later this is left, the less choice there is with regards to accommodation.

On 16th May, **Year 12** students will take place in a **Post 18 Pathways Day**. This day is designed to support students with their CV writing, UCAS applications and assessment centres for employment. This event will happen 2 days after UCAS opens for 2025 admissions so is ideally timed to support students with setting up their UCAS account, researching courses and considering how to strengthen their academic portfolio ahead of the summer holidays. The summer holidays are an essential period for students applying to university or employment. Universities have Open Days during the summer months, and it is important that students make a well-informed decision about courses and institutions before making their applications. Similarly, the writing of personal statements can be lengthy and it is important that students identify super curricular opportunities such as lectures, work placements (in person and online) and wider reading which can be completed over the course of the summer holidays.

**Oracy – Talk the Talk**

On 1st July, Year 12 will have the opportunity to take part in ‘Talk About The Future,’ an activity based workshop aimed to support Year 12 students in developing the competencies essential for a confident and positive transition to the world of work, further training or education. This will be the first time that we have hosted this workshop and we hope that students will develop confidence in their communication skills.

**New Head Student Team**

Congratulations to our new Head Student, Angel, and Deputies Dom, Matilda and Annabelle. They have made a fantastic start to their roles by visiting other year groups in assembly, running student council meetings and leading Stations Of The Cross. The whole team are working towards delivering on their pledges which include the reintroduction of the ‘Big Sister’ mentoring programme, flexibility for lunchtime study, and covered areas around the dining hall. It’s been great to see them working together as a team. Thank you to our outgoing Head Student Team whose final job is putting together the arrangements for Leaver’s Hoodies.

Have a fantastic Easter holiday.

Yours faithfully

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Mrs Jackson

**Assistant Head Teacher**

**Head of Sixth Form**