



PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

29 September 2023

Dear Year 10 Parent/Carer

Year 10 Curriculum, Assessment and Examinations

We hope that your child has made a positive return to school and is enjoying the GCSE option subjects they have chosen. We are writing to make you aware of some of the assessment requirements of the GCSE courses and highlight the timings of Consultation Evening, gradesheets and school examinations.

In late **October**, you will receive an **early Attitude to Learning (AtL) summary** that will indicate how well your child has embarked upon their GCSE studies. This will be followed, in **February**, by a more detailed **gradesheet**. This will provide you with updated AtL grades, as well as a first indication of the GCSE grades to which they are on track to achieve in June 2025.

Year 10 Consultation Evening will be held in school on **Thursday 25 April 2024**. A second **gradesheet**, published in **late July**, will provide you with AtL grades as well as an update on the GCSE grades towards which students are working. A pastoral comment from your child's form tutor will also be included.

Year 10 school examinations are currently planned to take place between **Monday 17 June and Wednesday 3 July 2024**. These dates may be affected by the public examination timetable.

Non-examination assessment (**NEA**) is the name given to the coursework element of GCSE courses. In some subjects, the work is completed under supervised conditions in class; in other subjects, students can take work home to complete.

In Year 10, students will start their non-examination assessment work in **Art, Art Textiles, Design & Technology, Drama, English (Spoken Language endorsement), Music and PE**. The work completed this year will contribute to their final GCSE grade (with the exception of English where the outcome is reported separately to their English grades) and so it is critically important that students engage fully and complete work by the set deadlines. This will ensure they are able to move to Year 11 up to date and on track to complete work by the final deadlines. **Computer Science** students will also start their programming work in Year 10; evidence of engagement with this project is required by the examination boards as opposed to students receiving a mark. Students studying **GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition** complete all their NEA in Year 11. In order to help our students achieve their full potential, all requests for absence during periods of coursework and school examinations will be refused, except in the most exceptional of cases. The NEA calendar for Year 10 is available on the school website.

We would also like to draw your attention to the following documents, all of which are available on the school website:

- 'Information for Candidates' documents that are distributed by JCQ on behalf of the examination boards, explaining the regulations with regard to examinations, non-examination assessment and social media
- JCQ 'Information for Students – Privacy Policy'
- The school's non-examination assessment policy
- The school's 'Examination Policy'
- The school's 'Accessibility policy in relation to examination'

Nemo sibi nascitur:

Our values of community, aspiration and opportunity enable every individual to grow and flourish

For reference, the examination boards used at Parmiter's are listed below.

Examination Board	Subjects
AQA	English (Language & Literature), Science (all), Modern Foreign Language (all), Computer Science, Design & Technology, Food Preparation & Nutrition, Music, Physical Education
OCR	Drama, Economics
Edexcel	Mathematics, Art, Art Textiles, Business, Geography, History, RS
WJEC	Latin

Access arrangements for public examinations and non-examination assessment

Access arrangements are put in place to allow students with special educational needs, a physical disability, a long-term medical condition, a psychological condition or temporary injury to access the examination or assessment. Examples of access arrangements may include a modified examination paper, extra time, supervised rest breaks or a live voice in a listening examination. In general, these must be applied for and agreed well in advance of an assessment. If you believe that the school should be applying for access arrangements on behalf of your child and **we are not currently aware** of any special educational needs, physical disabilities, long-term medical or psychological conditions, please contact our Curriculum Support team via e-mail (sendept@parmiters.herts.sch.uk).

Attendance & Punctuality

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we ask parents/carers not to take students out of school during term time. We would also appreciate that all dental and non-urgent medical appointments are made out of school hours; this is particularly important in the assessment weeks detailed above. The Attendance Policy and information about reporting absences are available on the school website (*under [Parents, then Attendance & Reporting Absence](#)*).

Homework

Your child will have received the homework timetable for this year. Please note that teachers will sometimes set a longer piece of homework which is intended to cover several homework slots; students will be advised of this and all the relevant details will be available on Google Classroom.

The Year 10 homework timetable and the school homework policy (which is within the [Teaching & Learning Policy](#)) are available on the school website. We encourage you to read the homework policy, which includes a guidance sheet for parents/carers and also guidance for students.

This letter, and the documents we refer to, are available on the school website. We would encourage you to familiarise yourselves with the following areas on the website:

- *Parents - Letters to Parents and Carers - GCSE & A Level Exam Information and Letters (including JCQ documents)*
- *Parents - Letters to Parents and Carers - Curriculum, Homework, Assessment & School Exams*
- *About us - Policies*

Thank you for taking the time to read this important information.

Yours sincerely



Mrs E Berks / Mr B Hughes
Deputy Headteachers