



# PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

September 2021

Dear Year 11 Parent/Carer

## Year 11 Curriculum, Assessment & Examinations

We hope that your son/daughter has made a positive return to school and started Year 11 with renewed focus on his/her studies. We are writing to remind you of some of the assessment requirements of the GCSE courses, share important information with regard to access arrangements for public examinations and highlight the timings of Year 11 trial examinations, Parents' Evening and reporting arrangements.

At this time, we are working on the assumption that school examinations and Parents' Evenings will go ahead as planned. However, changes may need to be made as the year progresses, including possible changes to the Assessment & Reporting calendar(s), as necessary.

We are awaiting confirmation from the Department for Education, Ofqual and examination boards as to the revised content of any GCSEs. When we have the full details, we will share these with you.

In **mid-November 2021**, you will receive a gradesheet giving an Attitude to Learning and GCSE forecast grade. You will be able to hold follow-up discussions with teachers on **Thursday 18 November** at our online Parents' Evening. During the term, staff will provide some valuable advice to students about how to prepare for the trial examinations.

**Year 11 trial examinations will take place between Monday 6 December 2021 and the end of term.** We hope that this timing will allow students, and families, to enjoy the Christmas holidays and that students will return to school in January with renewed focus and energy. However, some subjects will be asking students to continue to revise over the break, as there is not enough time during the examination fortnight to cover everything. Further examination practice will continue in lessons in these subjects. Please do not book any appointments or make any other absence requests for this period.

In **late January 2022**, you will receive a full subject report including your son's/daughter's trial examination grades from the December papers and updated forecasts. A final gradesheet, including a pastoral report, will be published in **early May 2022**.

At all stages of the year, teachers will give forecast grades using their professional judgement and experience. In the event that next year's GCSE examinations are cancelled and the school is asked to award grades, it should not be assumed that these will be the same as any forecast grades reported during the year.

**Non-Examination Assessment (NEA)**, more commonly referred to as coursework, continues in many subjects in Year 11. The level of supervision when completing these tasks varies between subjects and ranges from formal supervision (examination conditions) to limited control, where students will still have access to internet resources, etc. The relevant Heads of Department will be able to provide you with further information, if required.

**Access arrangements for public examinations** 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 son/daughter and **we are not currently aware** of any special educational needs, physical disabilities, long-term medical or psychological conditions, please contact Mrs van Rooij, the school SENCO, immediately via e-mail ([j.wood@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:j.wood@parmiters.herts.sch.uk)).

Students will have received their **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 11 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 and also guidance for students.

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

Yours sincerely



Ms G Absalom  
Assistant Headteacher