



PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

September 2019

Dear Year 10 Parent/Carer

I hope that your son/daughter has made a positive start to his/her GCSE courses and that s/he is enjoying the option subjects chosen. I am writing to make you aware of some of the assessment requirements of the GCSE courses and highlight the timings of Year 10 Curriculum Evening, Parents' Evening, gradesheets and school examinations.

Year 10 Curriculum Evening – Thursday 17th October 2019, 7.00pm

I hope that you are able to join us for the Year 10 Curriculum Evening on Thursday 17th October 2019 at 7.00pm. The evening will cover valuable information about the GCSE courses and 9-1 grade system, GCSE non-examination assessment, study and revision techniques and the importance of ensuring a balance between work and leisure. Further details of the evening will be sent via e-mail.

Parents' Evening, Gradesheets and Year 10 examinations

In early November, you will receive an **early effort summary** that will indicate how well your son/daughter has embarked upon his/her GCSE studies. This will be followed, **in late January**, by a **gradesheet**, that will provide you with updated effort grades as well as a first indication of the GCSE grades to which s/he should be aspiring in June 2021.

Year 10 Parents' Evening will be held on Thursday 23rd April 2020. Finally, a **second gradesheet published in July**, will provide you with effort grades for class work and homework as well as an update on the GCSE grades towards which students are working. **Year 10 school examinations will take place between Friday 19th June and Wednesday 1st July 2020**.

Non-Examination Assessment (NEA)

Non-Examination Assessment 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. Further information about NEA will be provided at the Year 10 Curriculum Evening.

In Year 10, students will undertake non-examination assessment in Art, all Design & Technology subjects, Drama, English (speaking & listening assessment), Music and PE. The calendar showing when Year 10 students will be preparing for or completing tasks, is available on the school website (please follow links for *Parents*, then *Curriculum*, *Homework & Assessment* and select the relevant year group). In order to help our students achieve their full potential, all requests for absence during periods of coursework will be refused, except in the most exceptional of cases.

The following documents, which may be of interest to you, are also available via the school website:

- 'Information for Candidates' documents distributed by JCQ on behalf of the examination boards, explaining the regulations with regard to non-examination assessment.
- The school's Non-Examination Assessment policy.

I would also like to draw your attention to the JCQ 'Information for Candidate – Privacy Notice' and the school's 'Public Examination Policy'. All these documents are available on the school website (please follow the link for Parents, then *Curriculum, Homework & Assessment* or *Policies*).

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 son/daughter and we are not currently aware of any special educational needs, physical disabilities, long-term medical or psychological conditions, please contact Mrs Berks immediately by letter or e-mail (e.berks@parmiters.herts.sch.uk).

Homework

Your child will have received his/her 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 satchelone.com.

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

I thank you for taking the time to read this important information.

Yours sincerely



Ms G Absalom
Assistant Headteacher