



PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

September 2021

Dear Year 9 Parent/Carer

Year 9 Curriculum, Assessment & Examinations

We hope that your son/daughter has made a positive return to the new academic year. We are writing to make you aware of the Year 9 reporting arrangements, which should provide you with timely and helpful information about your child's progress and support the process of choosing the GCSE courses they will study in Key Stage 4. The options process will be launched to students in **January 2022**.

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 amendments to the Assessment & Reporting calendar(s), as necessary.

During the academic year you will receive two detailed gradesheets, providing information about your son's/daughter's efforts and academic achievements. These will be sent home electronically. You will also be able to meet your child's teachers at Parents' Evening.

The first gradesheet will be issued **in December** and will include the following information for each subject:

- Attitude to Learning (AtL) grade
- End of Year 9 target Parmiter's Curriculum Level
- Indicator of progress towards this target
- Brief written comment.

The **Year 9 Parents' Evening on Wednesday 23 February 2022** will provide you with the opportunity to meet your son's/daughter's subject teachers.

The **second gradesheet** will be issued in **July 2022** and will include the following information for each subject:

- AtL grade
- Parmiter's Curriculum Level your child has achieved at the end of Year 9
- Brief written comment
- Pastoral comment from your child's form tutor.

Assessment & Examinations

A variety of formal and informal assessment methods are used to recognise and support progress and attainment. Day to day, students will receive feedback; the immediacy of this is a valuable part of the learning process. During the year students will also complete a number of summative assessments, such as end of topic tests, assessed tasks or formal examinations. These take place after the learning and recognise what has been learned and understood.

Year 9 will sit **formal school examinations in the week beginning Tuesday 3 May 2022**. These examinations will be held in the Sports Centre and are an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in some of the subjects they have studied this year. It will also allow them to experience the formality of working within a large examination hall.

There are also two further weeks, the weeks commencing **Monday 23 May 2022 and Monday 6 June 2022**, which are designated as **Years 7 – 9 assessment weeks**, in which students may sit end of year assessments in a greater range of subjects. Information about the examination timetable and the assessment weeks will be provided nearer the time.

Information about the assessment arrangements in each subject is available on the school website (*under Academic, then [Assessment](#)*). The website also provides additional information that may be of interest when reading your son's/daughter's gradesheets; for example, an overview of the courses studied during the academic year and the Parmiter's Scale Descriptors.

Attendance & Punctuality

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we ask parents 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](#) is available on the school website (*under Parents, then Policies*).

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 9 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.

Yours sincerely



Ms G Absalom
Assistant Headteacher