



Ref: U:\HOY\11\Study leave
May 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we approach your son's GCSE examinations I would like to inform you of some forthcoming key dates and activities.

GCSE examinations commence on Monday 15 May and Year 11 lessons will continue until Friday 26 May (end of term 5). From Monday 5 June (start of term 6) students will only attend lessons in subjects in which they still have to sit an examination. After that examination lessons will finish. Staff will continue to provide timetabled lessons until Tuesday 20 June.

From the 5 June students shall be free to go home after the last lesson of the day if they wish to; alternatively they may do some quiet and supervised revision in the Library between lessons. Attendance will be monitored and contact made with parents if a student fails to attend necessary lessons. There may be some students who are required to follow an individualised timetable during this period if we still have concerns regarding their effort and attainment.

Students have been reminded that we expect a high standard of conduct and co-operation in the final week of full timetabled lessons. Students who disrupt the learning environment or behave in a way not befitting this educational establishment risk compromising their references. Further Education institutions or employers would also be contacted if a student is planning on leaving King's at the end of Year 11 to report bad behaviour. Students may also be prevented from sitting any remaining GCSE examinations unless parents accompany them on the school site. The vast majority of our students do not need such stark reminders of our expectations, however finishing GCSE's is a seminal moment in a young person's life and sometimes the way students choose to mark this event can be detrimental to both themselves and the school.

Below are a few reminders about procedures for examinations.

- Students are required to meet the school rules in terms of dress and appearance. Failure to comply with this could result in being refused entry to the examination room.
- Students have all been given an examination timetable which they have been asked to check carefully. Would you please ensure that they have done this and know the exact dates and times of all their examinations.
- All the Examination Boards are insistent that the mere possession of a mobile phone, apple watch or any web enabled watch by candidates in the examination room is grounds for disqualification. Please ensure that your son does not carry a mobile phone or any other communications device into the examination room. We recommend that they are left at home on the day of an examination as the School accepts no responsibility should they be lost or stolen, even if handed in at the start of the exam. This includes any web-enabled watch.
- Students are required to write in black ball point pen and not gel pen as scripts are scanned and blue does not show up clearly enough.
- If your son is ill or has a problem which prevents him from taking an examination or will result in his late arrival for a paper, please telephone the school reception and let Mr Cook (Examinations Officer) know at the earliest opportunity.
- If you feel that your son has grounds for special arrangements or special consideration for an examination please let Mr Cook know in writing as soon as possible. Medical evidence will be required in such circumstances.

Year 12 Induction Week

All students who are intending on returning to Sixth Form must attend the Year 12 Induction Week starting on the 3 July. This will provide a full week of A-Level teaching and many subjects will both introduce and start the course. The Induction Week exists for the following reasons:

- **A-Level courses are demanding**, and the Induction Programme will help prepare your son for the rigours of A Level study. Some teachers will provide reading and other work to complete over the holidays which will facilitate a strong start to the course next year.

- **Some skills essential for A-Level success are not required at GCSE.** Study at Advanced Level requires a balanced combination of communication, problem solving, analytical and evaluative skills. No matter how convincingly a student can process material at GCSE level, they will fall short of the standard required at Advanced Level if they cannot assess evidence, identify arguments, and communicate their ideas in a coherent and lucid manner. Moreover, A-Levels make much higher demands of independent study, note making, learning and understanding.
- **All A-Levels are now linear** and in common with most schools nationally, King's will not be studying AS Levels. This makes it very important that students are on the most appropriate courses in September.

The Induction Programme will take place in the School Hall, the Sixth Form Centre and in the classrooms where Year 13 lessons would normally be taught. Students will attend introductory sessions in each of their chosen subjects. In addition they will be guided on the ethos of the Sixth Form and the standards expected and complete an online ALIS questionnaire which, together with their GCSE results, will form the basis of their academic targets next year.

Results Day

The GCSE results day is Thursday 24 August and results will be available to collect from 9.00am in the Sixth Form Centre. Results cannot be given over the telephone or emailed to individuals. A form requesting results to be collected by a nominated person can be found on the exam section of the school website. Any student who wishes to have his results forwarded in the post should provide a stamped addressed envelope and letter confirming their request to Mr Cook (Examination Officer). It is hoped that all students wishing to return to the Sixth Form will achieve the minimum entry of 6 B's at GCSE and at least a grade 5 in Maths and English, but it would be sensible for those not on course for this to have a safety-net option. Senior staff will be available on Results Day to discuss options in light of their results.

I would urge all students to work extremely hard for their GCSEs to give themselves the very best chance in the examinations. May I also thank all parents/guardians for their support over the last two years and their role in the preparation of our students for their GCSEs.

Yours sincerely



J A Dixon
Deputy Headmaster

✂✂

Return to: Form Tutor or via email to admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk by Friday 12 May.

YEAR ELEVEN LETTER

Pupil's Name:

Form:

- I have received the Year 11 letter []

Parent's Signature:

Date: