

September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you and your family had a pleasant summer break minus the usual summer weather that has finally arrived! It has been wonderful to welcome your child back this year and into Year 11. I have been really pleased with the year group's return and motivation towards Year 11 even in these very hot conditions. This morning I have had assembly with Year 11 and wanted to take this opportunity to write my first of many letters to you this year to provide you with an overview of the year ahead and some very important events this half term.

Year 11

This is an incredibly important year in your child's education and I am mindful of the number of things they will be thinking about as they move forward with their lives and into early adulthood. It is important this year that they aim for 100% attendance, work hard in every lesson, and complete homework on time and regularly revise. There is strong evidence that students who have high attendance in Year 11 achieve the best GCSE outcomes. Teachers and tutors will be working hard to support your children in all of their lesson and support them in understanding how to revise so they can identify the best methods for themselves as they move through this year. Finally, hard work in every lesson is the main focus and students must stick to this in the months ahead.

Wider Support

We have an extensive programme of support in place for your child this year.

Core subjects will be running Study Support sessions after school for your child.

Tuesday – English

Wednesday – Science

Thursday – Maths

The Core subjects will also be putting on targeted interventions during tutor time for 4-6 weekly rotations. Heads of Department will decide who attends these sessions and you will be contacted if they are put in place for your child just before they begin.

A107 will be block booked out for Year 11 after school from 3.30-5pm as a study space just for them but Homework Club in the library is still available.

An extensive programme of wellbeing support will also be made available and you will find out more about this on the Success Evening.

Key Events for this Year:

Wednesday 20 September – 6pm start – Year 11 Success Evening

Tuesday 17 October – Periods 1 and 2, Maximise Study Skills and Exam Performance Sessions and **Parents Evening in School 4-7pm**

Tuesday 31 October to Friday 10 November - Mock Exams 1

Wednesday 8 November - Sixth Form Open Evening

Monday 15 January – Year 11 Photographs

Monday 29 January to Friday 9 February – Mock Exams 2

Thursday 9 May to Monday 24 June – GCSE Exams

Success Evening

We would like to invite all Year 11 parents and students to our Success Evening on Wednesday 20 September, starting at 6.00pm in the Main Hall. This is an opportunity for you to find out more about the GCSE exams and how you can best support your child and for you to meet the Subject Leaders of all of the GCSEs that your child is taking. There will be a more detailed email sent to you next week with a bespoke timetable for you.

UK Parliament Trip

Wednesday 4 October I am running a trip to Parliament for 32 students in Year 11. I told your child about this in assembly today, students who are interested will be bringing a letter home with them, I still have 12 letters available for other students who would like to go on this trip.

Communication with school:

I know as parents your communication with school is really good and it is really important that we are made aware of any concerns you or your child has so that we can deal with any issues and support them appropriately. Moving forward please can you follow the communication procedure so that we can continue to support your child in the best ways possible.

Daily Absence Concerns:

If your child is going to be off unwell or has a medical appointment please call the absence number or email attendance@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Tutor Contact

If you have any concerns about your child's academic progress, homework, initial concerns about ongoing absence, behaviour issues, friendship issues, uniform issues or wider family issues that you feel the school needs to be aware of, please contact their tutor. It is really important you stay in contact with your child's tutor as your first point of contact with school.

A11JCC – Miss Carpenter – CarpenterJ@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

F11BZ – Miss Zbijowski – zbijowskib@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

H11EH – Mrs Holder and Mrs Cleak – HolderE@colfox.dorset.sch.uk CleakL@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

H11EP – Miss Penfold – PenfoldE@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

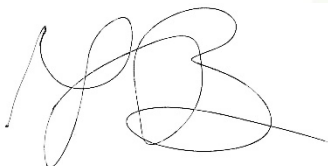
T10AJN – Miss Nicoll – NicollA@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Head of Year

If tutors notice ongoing concerns that persist they will pass to me as your child's Head of Year and I will get in contact with you. I know I have worked closely with many of you to support your child over the last few years. If we are currently in regular communication, please stay in touch with me.

Mr Bartlett – BartlettN@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Warmest Regards



Nathan Bartlett
Associate Assistant Headteacher