



8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents, Carers & Sixth Formers

### **Re: Year 12**

I am writing regarding the plan ahead for the Year 12s, which as I am sure you realise will be a busy few months as it encompasses public exams for some, internal school exams, Work Experience and planning and preparation ahead for university and apprenticeship applications.

#### **Exams**

For some students in Year 12, the Public Exams (for GCSE, A Levels, BTECs & CTECs) will start on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Mr Freeman, Exams Officer, is shortly going to be publishing the calendar for those exams and many of the Year 12s will have exams. Please ensure that once the calendar is published, your daughter/son knows when their exams are.

In addition, starting after the May/June half term and once the majority of the Public Exams have finished, the Year 12 internal summer exams will start. Year 12 students will be assessed on content covered up to this point. It is crucial that the students prepare for these exams in the same way they will do for the external exams, to ensure we can give the best possible feedback. We advise that students achieve at least a D grade in each of their three subjects, in order to progress successfully through to the second year of their courses. The Sixth Form Team will be in touch with further details, in due course, of the exams timetable once Mr Freeman has published it.

#### **Work Experience**

As you will be aware, all students in Year 12 will be expected to be participating in Work Experience for the final two weeks of the summer term (8<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024). It is vital that your son/daughter participates in this as it presents a valuable opportunity for them to establish a career field they might be interested in or gain important transferable skills for the future in the world of work. This will also offer students the option of adding this experience to their CVs and their UCAS Personal Statement or in apprenticeship applications.



### University Applications - UCAS

As students are coming towards the end of their Year 12, they should now be considering their next steps for post-18 life – be that work, apprenticeship or university. You will have already received notice of the UCAS Convention trip on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and in registration, students are beginning to prepare for this. Many will have already begun thinking about what their next steps are and researching the various universities and courses available. In tutor time, students will be given time, advice and guidance on these next steps, hence their attendance is vital.

### Personal Statements - UCAS

Before the summer term is completed, all students will have completed their first draft of their Personal Statement, the information universities receive with each student's application which helps them decide whether they will offer a student a university place. The expectation will be for all students to then spend time over the summer revising and improving this Personal Statement, ready for feedback from their Form Tutors and teachers upon their return in September. The work with their tutors in registration will also help them prepare.

Thank you in advance for your support and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your daughter/son's Form Tutor or a member of the Sixth Form Team.

Yours sincerely

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