

RHO/CJO/ADMIN/ALLDEPTS/PASTORAL/2425/RHOY11LETTERJAN25



13th January 2025

## Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this letter finds you well. As we approach the final months of your child's secondary education journey, I am writing to emphasise the critical role that consistent attendance plays in their preparation for GCSE examinations and the completion of their course content.

These last few months are pivotal in ensuring that students consolidate their knowledge, address any gaps in understanding, and refine their exam techniques. Teachers are working tirelessly to deliver the final parts of the curriculum, provide targeted revision sessions, and equip students with the skills they need to succeed. However, these efforts can only be fully effective if students are present to benefit from them.

I want to congratulate the Year 11 cohort and also your efforts as we are collectively outperforming the national average for attendance and this data is taken across all schools in England. This is something to be proud of however we must continue to build on this and ensure we don't see a drop off in the final stretch as this is where the most gains are made.

Attendance to key support sessions such as morning intervention (if chosen) and Period 6 (all) are crucial in gaining the extra edge and these small margins can be the difference between going up a grade and therefore improving life chances. Please can we recruit your support in ensuring high attendance from your child at these sessions as it is compulsory for all.

## Why Attendance Matters:

- **Course Content Completion:** Many subjects are now covering the final topics of their GCSE syllabus. Missing lessons can leave students with significant knowledge gaps, which can be challenging to address independently.
- **Targeted Revision and Intervention:** During Period 6 teachers are using this time to identify individual student needs and provide tailored support. Regular attendance to these sessions ensures that your child can access this invaluable guidance they need.
- Practice and Feedback: Mock exams, practice questions, and class discussions offer opportunities for students to refine their understanding and receive constructive feedback. These activities are integral to building confidence and competence ahead of the final exams.
- **Routine and Focus:** Maintaining a consistent routine helps students stay engaged, organized, and motivated during this critical period.

## How You Can Support:

1. **Encourage Consistent Attendance:** Please prioritise your child's attendance and punctuality, and ensure they are present unless they are unwell or have an unavoidable circumstance.



- 2. **Stay Informed:** Familiarise yourself with key dates, such as Period 6 sessions, mock exams, and deadlines, to help your child stay on track.
- 3. **Communicate with Us:** If your child is struggling with attendance or other challenges, please reach out to their form tutor or subject teachers so we can provide support.
- 4. **Promote Healthy Habits:** Encourage your child to balance their studies with adequate rest, nutrition, and time for relaxation to maintain their overall well-being.

We are committed to working in partnership with you to ensure that every Year 11 student has the best possible preparation for their GCSEs. Together, we can help them approach this significant milestone with confidence and achieve their full potential.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards

Mr R Horne Senior Pastoral Lead and Head of Year 11