



15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted with how pupils have returned to school and the very settled start that they have made to the new term. Thank you for your ongoing support with equipment and homework – it is very much appreciated. We thought it would be a good time to send out some key reminders regarding curriculum, homework, assessment and how we communicate with parents.

Homework will be set each week and more frequently at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. A copy of our homework policy and homework timetables can be found on the website ([HERE](#)). Staff set homework on the SIMS App so that pupils and parents/carers can access the homework each day through Pupil and Parent App. If a pupil has a problem with homework, they should speak to their class teacher before the lesson when it is due to be handed in to ask for support. We also run a Homework Club where your child can access staff support. You may find that some homework makes use of learning platforms such as SENECA in Science, Bedrock in English or Dr Frost in Mathematics.

Curriculum information for each subject is available on our website ([HERE](#)). This provides you with information about which subjects your child will be studying and the sequence of the topics. Your child will also have a checklist in their exercise books at the start of each topic telling them what they will be learning about. The curriculum information also includes the statutory curriculum for Relationships, Sex and Health Education along with our policy and some helpful information for parents/carers. There is a page devoted to the personal development of our pupils where you will find lots of information about how we support this very important aspect of our curriculum ([HERE](#)).

We will assess each child via a combination of formative and summative assessment. Formative assessment is a planned ongoing process during lessons e.g. question and answer, whereas summative assessment usually takes place at the end of a unit e.g. a test. Pupils will receive information about when a summative assessment is taking place in lessons and will also be guided about what revision and preparation they need to do. This information will also be provided on the SIMS App. Teachers will provide feedback on assessments and in exercise books and pupils are provided with time to respond to this feedback in green pen. The green pen work in pupil books is where they have added to or improved their work or completed some self or peer assessment/reflection. In addition to summative and formative assessment in lessons, there are some key dates for examination groups which are as follows:



Year	Dates	Information
Year 11	<b>Mock 1</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct – 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov  <b>Mock 2</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 6 <sup>th</sup> March	There are two sets of mocks for Year 11. Pupils will sit examinations in all of their GCSE subjects with the equivalent number of papers that they will sit in the summer series. Pupils will be guided about what to revise in lessons and will receive an examination timetable in advance.
Year 13	<b>Mock 1</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct – 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov  <b>Mock 2</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 6 <sup>th</sup> March	There are two sets of mocks for Year 13. Pupils will sit examinations in all of their GCE subjects with the equivalent number of papers that they will sit in the summer series. Pupils will be guided about what to revise in lessons and will receive an examination timetable in advance.
Year 10	<b>Mock Exams</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> June – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	For Year 10, pupils will sit examinations in all of their GCSE subjects. These examinations will be based on what they have been taught so far and this will be reflected in the number of papers sat. Pupils will be guided about what to revise in lessons and will receive an examination timetable in advance.
Year 12	<b>Mock Exams</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> June – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	For Year 12, pupils will sit examinations in all of their GCE subjects. These examinations will be based on what they have been taught so far and this will be reflected in the number of papers sat. Pupils will be guided about what to revise in lessons and will receive an examination timetable in advance.

In order to help your child prepare for exams, they will be provided with revision advice in Learning for Life lessons, subject lessons and assemblies. **We are also running Breakfast, form-time and Period 6 interventions for subjects. These are vital for your child to maximise their progress and potential. These are compulsory for any pupil who is not currently achieving their baseline, (please see your SIMs app, progress report 3 Year 10).** Pupils will be invited to attend subject intervention, particularly for mock and actual Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 examinations. Please ensure that your child prepares well for all assessments and examinations and attends all of the required intervention sessions.

We will be providing parental support sessions to support the preparation for examinations on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, a letter has been sent out via our Weduc/Matrix Academy Trust App.

We use all of the information that we collect about your child to report to you three times each year. This will include information about both progress and behaviour for learning.

The reporting release dates for the year are:

Year Group	PRI	PR2	PR3
Year 7	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2023	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Year 8	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2023	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Year 9	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2023	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Year 10	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2023	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Year 11	27 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	
Year 12	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2023	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Year 13	27 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2023	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	



The progress report will include a summary of attendance, attainment/progress and attitudes to learning for each subject. We also organise Progress Evenings to provide you with the opportunity to discuss the progress of your child with subject teachers and the dates of these are as follows:

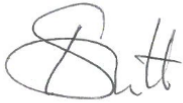
Year 11 Progress Evening	21 <sup>st</sup> September 2023
Year 12/13 Progress Evening	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Year 11 Progress Evening	18 <sup>th</sup> April 2024

Some of these are face to face and some are on line – can I ask for your full support in attending these evenings as they are an invaluable form of home-school communication and support the excellent partnerships that we have with parents and carers.

We have placed your child in the teaching groups that we feel best match their ability. We will use formative and summative assessment to review pupil groups to ensure that pupils continue to be placed in the most appropriate group for their ability. We will inform parents/carers of any changes to sets. Whilst we take a holistic view to assessment, it is important that pupils do revise and prepare very well. They will be guided by their teachers as to how best to prepare for each summative assessment.

I hope you find this information helpful. A copy of this letter and each letter sent home is available on the school website. We also send out a termly newsletter and post regularly on Twitter and our website. We really appreciate the work that you do behind the scenes at home and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do to support your child's learning.

Yours faithfully



**Mr I Smith**  
**Headteacher**

