



Dear Parent,

25th April 2021

Re: Updates for Year 7-10

Can I begin by thanking you for your support last week in making sure that the term started in a calm and purposeful manner. We were delighted with the students' smart appearance and engagement in their lessons.

I thought it important to write to you with some key information and dates for Year 7-10 to allow you and your child to plan and feel reassured about what's coming up in the coming months. We understand what a difficult time it has been for our students and want to do everything we can to ensure that they clearly know what is coming and what is expected of them.

INSET day date change

The planned INSET day for staff training will move

- from Friday 18th June
- to Friday 28th May

This will give staff the capacity to complete the standardisation and moderation processes necessary for the Teacher Assessed Grades (Year 11) and continue with important work enriching and improving our curriculum offer towards our goal of being recognised as an outstanding school.

Assessments for Year 7-10

As this year has been such a disjointed year in terms of classroom provision, we have decided to keep formal assessment to classroom and subject departmental 'Assessment for Learning'. This means your child's teacher will be using low stakes testing, in class questioning and marking to understand where the gaps are in knowledge to then close these gaps with 'responsive teaching'. We hope this reassures students that they will not have to complete high stakes tests before the end of this academic year. As we go into the next academic year, we will then look to benchmark our students to gauge the level of learning and put intervention in place to support students who have fallen behind.

Year 11 final day

I have written separately to Year 11 parents detailing the arrangements for their final months in school. We will say thank you to our students in an assembly on Wednesday 26th May. However, students will need to be available to complete any missed assessments up to and including the 16th June.

And finally

Can I please draw your attention to the Headteacher's video which will come out each Friday. It's a great chance to share the fantastic student work I have seen in classrooms over the week. You can find the video on the school website and we will promote through social

media. We know how important communication is to ensure we work together in partnership to enable your child to achieve their potential. If we can help your child's learning in any way, please do not hesitate to contact our team.

Thanks as ever for your support.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Galvin', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mat Galvin