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17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to advise you about steps we will be taking next year with Year 10 students moving into Year 11.

There has been much discussion about the impact of 'missed learning' and speculation about whether students should all be continuing with their existing programmes. We were very pleased to see the latest government guidance emphasising the expectation that the overwhelming majority of students entering their examination year, (Year 11) should continue with their existing programme of study.

Our philosophy is that learning is for life, not for exams. The knowledge and skills students gain from being in lessons is invaluable and become the building blocks for future learning. We therefore believe that all students should continue with a full programme of subjects.

We do, however, recognise that some students have experienced particular challenges, some of which were in place before lockdown commenced in March. We are planning therefore to discuss some slight changes with a very small number of these individuals in September. Where staff and/or parents have raised concerns, we will monitor the situation but are unlikely to make any immediate changes.

Our experience tells us that students benefit from a structured school day. Whilst some individuals may have struggled with aspects of their learning when studying remotely I am confident that much of this can be made up quite rapidly in the first term of Year 11.

Rest assured we will continue to monitor the progress of all students and involve you in any discussions we need to have about progress and engagement. Further decisions may be made either later in the Autumn term or at the start of the Spring term. I am sure you appreciate that we need to take time and look carefully at how each individual responds to the challenges of Year 11. We do not want to rush into such decisions.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown

Headteacher









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