

Lower Sixth Students Progression Examinations & Arrangements for the end of the Summer Term 2018

I am pleased to enclose your son/daughter's fourth Interim Report for this academic year. Hopefully, the Report contains effort grades of 3 or 4 and an actual attendance level of at least 90%. However, if this is not the case, I am sure you will wish to explore this with your son/daughter and his/her Senior Tutor.

Progression Examinations – 14 to 25 May

Lower Sixth students taking **A Level courses** will have a Progression Exam in each individual subject. Students will be emailed an exam timetable to the College account and a copy is enclosed with this report. Students undertaking Progression Examinations will be on study leave from **A Level classes** from 14 to 25 May, but all other classes will continue as normal.

It is important that your son/daughter takes the Progression Examinations very seriously, as they are used to determine Progression onto the Upper Sixth courses, as well as predicted grades for universities and employers. Should there be any concerns following the Progression Examinations about your son/daughter's progress, the College will inform you and discuss options with you. More information will follow with the next Interim Report in June.

Revision

It is essential that your son/daughter plans a personal study programme up to the Progression Examinations, commencing at the very latest, by the start of the Easter holiday (Friday 30 March – Friday 13 April). Departments will be issuing specific guidance for their subjects. Revision needs to be an active process. Please encourage your son/daughter to spend time on practice exam papers, which can be found on Moodle.

Whilst the holidays are a break from College, your son/daughter should aim to be **studying for an average of five hours per day** during this period to ensure maximum preparation and success in the examinations and final coursework assignments. It is not that difficult to fit in this amount of work, providing your son/daughter does not have too many late nights and long lay-ins.

It is about getting the balance right. Sensible, well-planned revision now should result in commendable results. If, however, your son/daughter gives the impression that they are simply 'on holiday' or uses this as an opportunity to undertake additional paid work, disappointment could well follow.

Examination period

Students should arrive in good time for all their examinations, which unless otherwise notified, begin at **9.00am** or **1.00pm**. We are all aware that public transport is not always reliable, so students must leave ample time to get to College at least **20 minutes in advance** of start time. **We cannot delay the start of an examination for those who arrive late.** Students should also double check the time of their examinations on a regular basis – every year a few students miss examinations without good reason and there is nothing we can do to help them. Students should arrive fully equipped and ensure they know the location of each examination; this information can be found on the **Examinations Notice Board** located in County Building corridor.

Newsletter

Please find enclosed the latest College newsletter, **On Route**. This gives an overview of the exciting events that have occurred during the past few months. I am sure you will agree that the College is a real community, offering the students a wealth of opportunities.

Textbook/Library Book/Equipment Returns 2018

Students should return all textbooks/library books/equipment directly to the ILC in the Langham Building (L101) **no later than their final exam**. Early returns will be welcomed. Please **do not return anything to anyone other than the staff in the ILC**.

A notice listing all books/equipment on loan will be emailed to your son/daughter at the beginning of the Summer Term and any lost or damaged books/equipment will be deducted from the book deposit held. Students who are leaving the College at the end of the summer 2018 will, providing their accounts are clear, have their book deposit returned as soon as possible, but no later than the end of September 2018.

End of Academic Year Arrangements

In addition to the Progression exams, the Lower Sixth students have a busy Summer Term with several key events taking place:

Date	Event
Friday 30 March to Friday 13 April	Easter Holiday – students return Monday 16 April
Monday 7 May	Bank Holiday – College closed
Monday 14 – Friday 25 May	Progression Exams
Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June	Half term
Thursday 21 June	Progression Exam results & IR5 issued
Tuesday 26 June	Equality & Community Day
Thursday 28 June	Progression Day
Friday 29 June	Lower Sixth teaching finishes
Wednesday 4 – Friday 6 July	Department trips and activities

The last day of teaching for Lower Sixth students will be **Friday 29 June**. However, some courses may require students to attend compulsory trips over the period **Wednesday 4 – Friday 6 July**. These will be confirmed after Easter. **Therefore, students should ensure they are available up to Friday 6 July.**

Please note that the residential trips to New York (Art, Media & Film), Paris (History), Berlin (History), Budapest (Business) or Snowdonia (DofE) all take place beyond this date.

Start of Term for the Academic Year 2018-19

The new term for students going into the Upper Sixth will start on **Tuesday 4 September 2018**

I hope that everything goes well for your son/daughter in the weeks ahead and that he/she is rewarded for all his/her hard work by excellent examination results.

Nick Clark
Principal

March 2018