

Upper Sixth Students

Public Examinations & Arrangements for the end of the Summer Term 2017

I am pleased to enclose your son/daughter's fourth and final Interim Report for this academic year, together with guidance on how to interpret the information. All is well if the Report contains effort grades of 3 or 4 and an actual attendance level of at least 90%. Naturally, you will want to discuss the contents with your son/daughter and I hope that you will be pleased with the Report. However, if there are areas of urgent concern, you should explore the matter with your son/daughter's Pastoral Director/Associate Pastoral Director/Senior Tutor.

End of Year Arrangements

Upper Sixth students will continue with their normal timetable up to and including **Friday 26 May**. However, there are some students resitting AS modules before this date. Students will be emailed an exam timetable to their College account, which will show the final modular examination date for each subject. A student may choose to revise at home in the morning when they have an afternoon examination, but are expected to attend the afternoon lessons if they have a morning examination.

Students will be issued with a revision planner indicating the work they should do each day through half term (Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June). In addition, most subject areas will be offering 'impact' revision sessions a few days before the actual A2 examination – **I cannot stress enough how great an effect these can have on students' grades**. Dates and venues for these sessions will be published next term.

Personal study

It is essential that your son/daughter plans a personal study programme up to the examinations, commencing at the very latest, by the start of the Easter holiday (Monday 3 April to Monday 17 April). The nature of this programme will depend on the courses that your son/daughter is following. For BTEC programmes, students should be putting maximum time and effort into their final coursework assignments. For A Level courses, students need to be revising and practicing papers for their upcoming examinations.

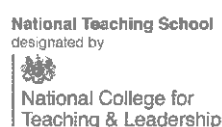
During the holiday, your son/daughter should be studying an average of five hours per day. It is not that difficult to fit in this amount of work, providing your son/daughter does not have too many late nights and long lay-ins in the mornings! In order to help students manage their time departments will issue work planners to all students at the end of this term. The work planners will also be placed on Moodle (the College's virtual learning environment).

Revision needs to be an active process. Please encourage your son/daughter to spend time on past exam papers, which can be found on Moodle. Commercially produced revision guides can also be very useful, as is reference to interactive revision materials on the internet.

I cannot stress enough the importance of your son/daughter completing focused study during the holiday. 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.

Revision Workshops

A large number of revision courses have already been arranged in the holiday. We hope that many students take advantage of these. Most subjects are covered by these sessions. Students who attended last year found the sessions to be invaluable. Other departmental revision workshops will take place at various times in the run up to the examinations.



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Examination Period

Students should arrive in good time for all their public examinations, which unless otherwise notified, begin at **9.00am** or **1.30pm**. 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 times. 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 College newsletter, **On Route**. This gives an overview of the many 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 2017

All textbooks/library books/equipment should be returned to the ILC during the Summer term: no later than **Friday 23 June**. Students should return any books as soon as they are no longer needed for coursework or exam revision.

Books/equipment must not be returned to any members of staff other than 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. Responsibility for loss/damage will remain with the parent/guardian. If this procedure is not followed, appropriate deductions will be made from the book deposit held by the College.

Students who are leaving the College at the end of the summer 2017 will, providing their accounts are clear, have their book deposit returned as soon as possible but no later than the end of September 2017.

Meningitis and students going to University

Please refer to Meningitis Now for useful information about young people going to University, see link: <https://www.meningitisnow.org/meningitis-explained/signs-and-symptoms/meningitis-children-and-young-people/>

Summary of Holiday Dates to Note

Date	Event/Activity
Monday 3 April to Monday 17 April	Easter Holiday – Students return Tuesday 18 April
Monday 1 May	Bank Holiday – COLLEGE CLOSED
Friday 26 May – 4pm to 7pm	Leavers Event
Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June	Half Term week
Thursday 17 August	AS/A Level results day
Thursday 24 August	GCSE results day

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

Nick Clark
Principal

March 2017