



OLD BUCKENHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

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27th September 2017

Dear parents and carers,

As your child is now in the final year of their GCSEs, we felt it important to contact you to raise your awareness of things which will be affecting them, important upcoming dates, and revision and intervention opportunities we will be putting in to place to support your child's progress.

Firstly, all staff have been reviewing Year 11 target grades. It is important that these grades reflect students' prior attainment and are suitably aspirational to encourage our learners to challenge themselves and achieve their potential. While many students may see no changes made, any changes will be visible on Go4Schools, and any student affected will be spoken to by their subject teacher.

Important Dates:

On the 1st November, we will be running an evening session for parents to meet with a senior member of staff to discuss your son or daughter's progress following their first assessment of the year. In addition, we will be giving advice on revision strategies, mock exams and ways you can support their progress throughout the year.

For three weeks, starting on the 27th November, students will be sitting mock exams in formal exam conditions for all of their subjects. Further information regarding revision and preparation advice for these will be shared with students by Curriculum Leaders and subject teachers nearer the time. However, in the meantime, please encourage students to be keeping up with all homework set which will be visible on their student page on Go4Schools.

Resources and Intervention:

In this changing educational climate, we realise that students' achievements in the Core subjects (English and Maths) are of enormous importance for their future pathways. As a school, we have invested in both the PiXL Maths and PiXL English Literature App.

Students have all received log in information from their form tutor (School ID: OB4264; Username: Surname + First Initial = JonesH; Password: Surname).

These resources can be accessed from any desktop, laptop or smartphone. We feel that students being able to access useful resources and test their knowledge and



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skills outside the classroom, and in addition to tasks set by class teachers, will be of invaluable support to them this year.

Following the changes in the timing of the school day, students have an additional extended form time in the afternoon. Both English and Maths revision resources have been created for students to use during this time. We will also be looking at making use of our subject specialists for these sessions and will be creating intervention groups which will target students based on their performance in their in-class assessments and mock exams.

Looking ahead, we will be offering Period 6 revision/ intervention sessions across a range of subjects after Christmas. As we are keen to not over-burden students at this critical time, we will be using the available data and feedback from teachers to identify which students are invited to which sessions.

While we cannot ensure that students achieve certain grades, and so much of the responsibility for their achievement lies with them in terms of making the right choices both in and outside the classroom, our aim is to make sure that they feel supported and encouraged.

If you have any questions regarding the way in which you can support your child, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

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