

24th September, 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Year 11 - The Year Ahead

As we have completed our first few weeks of Year 11, I thought it would be helpful to give you a brief overview of our programme for the year ahead along with some key dates.

As you may know, the previous Year 11 group of students left SBL with really pleasing examination results and a large number have remained with us for post 16 study. We are delighted for them and have every expectation that we will be able to do the same for your daughter and/or son.

As you begin to plan ahead, we hope to see you at our forthcoming **SBL Post-16 Open Evening on Thursday 14th October**. Here you will be able to find out about our Post 16 (Sixth Form) and the courses available to all students.

At this point in term 1, students are building towards our week of practice (mock) exams which will begin on **Monday 15th November** – a precise timetable will follow nearer the event. The results of these examinations will be provided before the Christmas holiday to give you and your child time to understand the progress that has been made up to now and work on the areas to improve when we come back in January 2022. Later in the year, students will have another opportunity to take additional practice exams in many of their subjects (including English, Maths and Science). These exams are scheduled to begin on **Monday 7th March 2022**.

In order to keep you fully updated on progress with studies, we will be sending home reports to you which will tell you the grades that we are predicting for your son or daughter in the summer exams. Please look out for these reports around the following dates:

Report 1	Mid October 2021
Report 2	Mid December 2021
Report 3	End of March 2022

In order to secure the best possible grades, you will notice the increased amount of homework being set for your child on our Insight portal. Completing this “Home Study” activity is a crucial part of the independent learning necessary to succeed in the examinations that will take place in the summer term.

In terms of careers guidance, we will carry on with our programme so that our students are well informed about what is possible into the future. Please see here for the full programme of scheduled events for Year 11: [<< Click Here >>](#). To complement this, we have a weekly slot in our tutor programme where tutors will work with students to better understand the options available post 16. If you want to take advantage of meeting an Independent Careers advisor, please do speak with Ms Murray our Careers Leader and perhaps follow our twitter feed [<< Here >>](#).

The majority of the external summer exams will begin in late April and Early May and will finish in late June. Students will be expected to attend school fully until the end of term 5. In term 6, some study

leave is granted, but this will depend on the examination timetable. We do know that students are likely to be available for exams until the end of June 2022.

Whilst rest and family time are important parts of holiday time, it is vital that revision and independent learning at home also has a prominent part to play in holiday times during Year 11. We encourage students to take a balanced approach to work, rest and play but it is important also to make sacrifices if students want to secure excellent grades to take into the rest of their lives.

We want the students to be ambitious, work hard and to aspire to post 16 study, apprenticeships, university and the world of work, it is very important that your children feel able to talk to their parents, teachers and other staff about the challenges ahead and also that they have a clear sense how they will get there. Please do speak with your daughter or son on this as and when the opportunity presents itself.

Hopefully, you will feel that you have our support as parents and carers and that you will feel welcome to approach us at SBL if you feel that we can help or advise you. Please do contact your daughter or son's Head of House if you feel that we can assist you further.

With every best wish for the year ahead,

Yours faithfully

Mr S A White
Vice Principal

Summary of Key Dates for Year 11	
SBL Post-16 Open Evening	Thursday 14th October
Report (1) to parents/carers	w/c 21 st October 2021
Autumn Practice (mock) exams	w/c Monday 15 th November 2021
Report (2) to parents/carers	w/c 13 th December 2021
Spring Practice (mock) exams	Monday 7th March 2022.
Report (3) to parents/carers	w/c Monday 4 th April
External summer examinations begin	Late April (to be confirmed)
Year 11 Work Experience	w/c 27 June 2022