25 November 2022

Sandy Lane Blackdown Leamington Spa Warwickshire CV32 6RD

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#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

I am pleased to inform you that our first report of the academic year, which contains information on student performance to date, is ready to be published on Go4Schools. As soon as the report is available, in the afternoon of Friday 25 November, you will receive an automated email from Go4Schools with a link to your child's report. Click on the link, log into Go4Schools and the report will appear on screen. Alternatively, log into Go4School in the normal way and click on the Reports section you will then see the report and can click to open it. As we progress through the year all reports will remain available on Go4Schools for your reference.

## Years 9, 10 and 11

The data reported takes the form of:

- The main target which was created using KS2 data (or our own baselines where this was unavailable) by an external target setting company called Fischer Family Trust. These are based on challenging our students to make progress in the top 20% of students with the same starting points nationally.
- The progressive target band will be the same as the main target grade to begin with but if a child exceeds their main target grade, then they will be set a number more challenging progressive target.
- Current Grade this will indicate the grade that the teacher is predicting your child to get at the end of the course, based on the range of evidence to date and the assumption that they continue to work in the same manner. It will utilise the same possible grades as can be awarded at the end of the qualification.
- Progress against main target this will be a worded descriptor explaining how the current grade compares to the main target in each subject. This will be either Above target, In-line with target, Below target or Well below target.
- Attitude to Learning this is a worded descriptor that indicates whether a student demonstrates the necessary behaviours and attitudes to be a successful learner. For each subject they will be given one of the following descriptors Outstanding, Good, Improvement Required or Cause for concern.

#### **All Years**

**E**Qualities

The current data reported at each cycle is the most accurate reflection given the work completed in the course so far. Given the varying nature of all subjects, these grades may fluctuate each cycle. To view more detailed information about target setting, assessment and reporting, including how you can support your child following each data cycle, please go to the Assessment and Reporting page of the school website.

In the event of a subject specific issue or concern, the subject teacher or subject leader should be contacted in the first instance. Staff do not provide written report paragraphs but you will have opportunity to meet these staff during the course of the year at the subject evening scheduled for your child's year group.













Go4Schools contains regular information on rewards and consequence and your child's exercise books will have any written feedback given by staff with actions for improvement. We do encourage you to contact staff earlier if you have any questions or concerns. If there are wider concerns across a range of subjects the form tutor is a more appropriate first contact. The names of all staff working with your child are available on Go4Schools and all contact details are on the Meet the Team section of the website.

### **Mock Examination Window**

The first stage of Mock Examinations, to prepare our students for the Summer Exams, went extremely well in October. We are really proud of the way our students prepared for these and conducted themselves. We believe by giving students multiple opportunities to get used to the exam environment will inevitably support them in the long term, to reduce levels of worry and anxiety. Familiarity in location and expectation is really important for success to happen next Summer.

We are now preparing students for the next window of Mock Examinations, which is the biggest window of almost ten days. These will take place in the final two weeks of this half term. The timetable below has already been shared with students, 5 weeks in advance, so they have significant time to get ready and prepared. When students **do not** have an exam, they will be attending normal lessons and using this time productively with retrieval and revision at the heart of these sessions, whichever subject is being delivered.

Week 1	Mon 5 Dec	Tue 6 Dec	Wed 7 Dec	Thu 8 Dec	Fri 9 Dec
8.45am	English Literature Paper 1 (1h45)	Biology Triple (1h45) Combined (1h10)	Fine Art (3h)	Geography (1h30)	Media Studies (2h15)
12.50pm	Food Prep & Nutrition (1h30)	French, German and Spanish – writing (F tier 1h; H tier 1h15)	Chemistry Triple (1h45) Combined (1h10)	German – listening & reading (F tier 1h20 H tier 1h45)	French – listening & reading (F tier 1h20; H tier 1h45)
				Dance (1h)	

Week 2	Mon 12 Dec	Tue 13 Dec	Wed 14 Dec	Thu 15 Dec	Fri 16 Dec
8.45am	English Literature Paper 2 (2h15)	History (1h15)	Design & Technology (1h30)	Physics Triple (1h45) Combined (1h10)	Physical Education (1h)
			Photography (3h)		
			Textiles (3h)		
12.50pm	Business (1h45)	Computer Science (1h30)	<b>Drama</b> (1h45)	Health & Social Care (1h20)	
		Spanish – listening & reading (F tier 1h20; H tier 1h45)	Travel and Tourism (1h)		

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Results from these Mock Examinations will be shared with students on Friday 20 January, in a special assembly, in the same style as an August results day. Students have been allocated time in Tutor period from Monday 21 November to work on revision and receive tips from their Tutor. I strongly recommend this time is used for your child to ask any questions, if they are unsure about anything that is coming up in the near future. In the above window of exams, there are no Maths papers. Maths will be part of the February series with all three exam papers scheduled in the timetable.

## **Y11 Parents Evening**

A further reminder that our first of two Y11 Parents Evenings is on Monday 28 November. If you haven't booked any appointments as yet, please refer to the guidance sent out two weeks ago. We really value your time to attend this very important evening so you can have a greater awareness of the support you can offer at home. It really is an evening, not to be missed!

### Tips of the trade supporting your child through Exams

There is a very informative presentation on the website under <u>exams</u> that you may find useful in supporting your child. We recommend you take a look at this and use in discussion with your child at home.

#### **Revision after school sessions**

An after-school subject revision timetable will be created and available on the website in February, where each night, Monday to Thursday, you will know which subjects are offering revision sessions for your child to attend. These sessions will commence first week back after February Half Term. Please encourage your child to attend as many as possible. Our Year 11 reward scheme called 'Passport to the Prom' will run simultaneously to this, where students can stamp a Passport and get rewards for attendance in the shape of free photographs at the Prom later in the year.

On some of these evenings as well, we will be doing Pizza nights, as a thank you to our students.

It's been a busy half term with both the mock interviews and the Careers Fair taking place. Both were a great success with both providers and students saying what a positive experience it was for them. I've included some of the feedback below:

# **Mock Interviews**

Twenty two external providers gave up their working day to support this event. Here are some of the comments the providers made:

"I thought the event was well organised and the calibre of students was very high. They seemed interested and engaged with the event."

"I find it really inspirational to hear the student's stories, achievements and ambitions. They all uniquely have something to offer and it's a privilege to have hopefully have played a small part in supporting them to enable their potential."

"Being involved yesterday in the mock interviews of Year 11 students was both a rewarding and positive experience. Many impressive young people demonstrated thought, preparation and engagement in the mock interview process."

"The event was extremely well organised, with a very welcoming, happy environment. The students were nothing short of sublime, they were a credit to their respective families, their teachers, the community but most importantly, themselves. Having worked in a school for several years I was in

















awe of the conduct of this school, the CORE values are certainly alive within and exist at the front of everything that they do."

"A really enjoyable day. It was great to meet such a talented bunch of future potential employees."

Here are some of the comments that the students made:

"We were given the opportunity to be prepared for mock interview and this was really helpful."

"The providers were really positive and helped to make us feel at ease."

"Having a mock interview was really useful as we'll feel more confident when we have an interview for college or employment in the future."

Many students brought a CV or Personal Statement with them and this was a real positive in the providers' eyes. All students conducted themselves in a very mature manner during the interview. Hopefully the feedback that they receive next week will help them to hone their skills for future interviews for further/higher education establishments and, ultimately, for future employment,

#### **Careers Fair**

Thirty two external providers supported the Year 9 to Year 11 careers event, including the armed forces, four universities, two local colleges and a range of employers from the local area. Here are some of the comments that they made:

"Students were great at asking questions of employers from a range of industries and companies based across Warwickshire to offer them future opportunities."

"It was great to see more girls considering the engineering sector which is dominated by males. Most students I spoke to at the event were female."

"Students from all years were really engaging towards the programme."

Here are some of the comments that students made:

"I found out about lots of course that I had no idea existed"

"I found out what different colleges and universities specialised in and what careers you could go into after"

"I learned about the sub careers in policing"

It goes without saying that we are entering a very busy period and collectively, by working together, we are convinced we can make this period of time as enjoyable and rewarding as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sarah Barley-Morey
AHT Y11 Lead and Careers

Mr Matt Atkins Senior Assistant Headteacher















