13 January 2023

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Dear Parents and Carers,

A belated Happy New Year to you all – we hope you and your families had a lovely festive break. Year 10 students have made an excellent start to the new calendar year where we are seeing a really positive attitude towards their learning and they are continuing their GCSE journey with a diligent, and a hardworking attitude.

The focus for this half term during Tutor Time is reviewing and reflecting on our World Class Basics, ensuring that punctuality to lessons is good, uniform is to the expected standard and students are fully equipped for learning to ensure there are no barriers to learning. Tutors will continue to support and challenge students during Tutor Time. During Tutor Time, our curriculum theme this half term is 'Violence, Crimes and Seeking Safety', which will include sessions based around Forced Marriages and Breast Ironing, Online Gaming and Gambling, Social Media Validation, and Keeping Data Safe. Students will also receive a number of assemblies and tutor sessions linked to the upcoming Year 10 RE Mock exam.

## **MOCK EXAMINATION WINDOW 2**

As you are aware, Year 10 Students will sit their RE GCSE examinations this Summer. The final RE GCSE grade is awarded from having sat three written based examinations. To prepare our students for the Summer Exams we have scheduled a second RE Mock Examination to give all students every chance to be successful in this subject. We believe in giving students multiple opportunities to get used to the exam environment as this 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 also hope this will be a good foundation for all the other subjects that are examined in the following year.

The second RE Mock Examination will be timetabled for the **morning of Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb.** Students are expected to be in the canteen no later than **8.45am** so we can smoothly get all students into the Theatre for a 9.00am start.

The vast majority of our students listen carefully to all messages, but it is really important that students follow all advice from every colleague involved in examinations. JCQ (Joint Council of Qualifications) set the examination rules and they are very strict regarding any form of incorrect communication between students. Any inappropriate behaviour has to be reported to JCQ and they have the power to award a non-grade, but in the worst circumstances, they could cancel all grades from every examination in that time period. At school, we are regularly discussing the importance of exams and the approach taken towards them with our students. Can we ask that you have similar conversations at home and discuss the strictness that is employed must be followed through if needed. The JCQ Information for candidates document can be accessed here

















## **RE EXAM RESOURCES**

All revision resources that are relevant for the RE examination are on G4S. Revision classes after school for RE run on a Thursday evening. Further information and advice can be shared by the students RE teacher at any point.

## Tips of the trade supporting your child through Exams

The two PiXL documents attached - Spacing and Timing of Revision and The Chunking Technique – are information for parents and carers to support their child at this very busy time.

## **Y10 Parents Evening**

Year 10 Parents Evening is the first day back after the February half term on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The booking system will be open to make appointments to see your child's teacher on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm.

Yours sincerely

Mr. Butler Head of Year 10















