



23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents and Students,

## Year 11 Study Leave

Increasingly over the last few years we have kept our Year 11's with us later and later after the exams have begun. This is to ensure their days still have structure and so that we can work with them to ensure their revision is targeted to the areas we know they need most.

Of course we understand that some students and parents prefer to be in charge of their own revision. Last year there were parents who were unhappy about this. Nonetheless, some of the students who were the most unhappy stuck with it and were among the most successful in their summer results.

Today we have had a large number of students in Year 11 with parent supported absences. We are of course disappointed that this has happened, not least the Maths' and Science teachers who had planned very specific revision sessions in preparation for this week.

Nonetheless, we do appreciate that many of our students are struggling being in school and would prefer to revise at home, particularly given the pressure that other year groups haven't faced with the new Maths and English GCSEs. We don't want to fight a losing battle.

As such, as of today, you and your sons and daughters can choose when school is attended. The following conditions however MUST apply:

- Students MUST be in school 30 minutes before the start of their exams
- They MUST sign in and out so we know they are on site
- If they are in school, when they are not in exams they MUST be in their normal timetabled lessons
- During tutor time they will be supervised in the Mersey Dining Room
- They MUST be in full school uniform at all times
- We would recommend that they keep checking Firefly so that teachers can keep in touch with them

Much as we do not want to say this, if the above conditions are not met, if we have not received the reply slip below (by email or printed and handed in at the office) or if they are seen out and about in the school community when they should be revising then we will have to consider the only sanctions left available to us which is their attendance at the leavers assembly (details to follow) and/or the valedictory dinner.

We have enjoyed such a positive relationship with our Year 11 students and you as their parents; we really hope that you receive this letter in that positive spirit of continued partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Gwinnett and Mr Cunniffe

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Reply slip – Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the letter dated 23rd May entitled 'Study Leave' and I understand the conditions listed. Please tick the appropriate box below and sign here \_\_\_\_\_

My son/daughter will be attending school unless they are ill when I will inform the school

My son/daughter will be taking advantage of 'supervised study off site'

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