



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

10th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your children managed to have some time together over half term and to re-charge batteries in preparation for a successful half term as we work towards the Easter break. Since I last wrote to you, the Year 11 students have actively engaged in a whole host of activities to support their preparation for the formal assessments that have started this week and it has been really encouraging to see how many students are engaging with home learning to work independently to be the best version of themselves.

The exam boards have published advance information on the content of most GCSE exams in summer 2022 on their public websites. As you will be aware this is part of an unprecedented package of support for students, including changes to non-exam assessment, providing formulae and equation sheets in some exams and more generous grading, to help make exams as fair as possible this year. There is advance information for all GCSEs with the exceptions of art and design (because they do not have written exams) and GCSEs in English literature, history and geography, which have some optional topics or content instead. Your child will have been informed of the changes by their subject teachers and staff are working to ensure they are all fully prepared. Because of the variety of specifications and subjects covered and how they are assessed, the advanced information is different for every subject. The DfE and Qfqual have designated 2022 a 'transition year' wherein GCSEs in England will be graded by exam boards using boundaries that reflect a mid-way point between those awarded in 2021 and 2019.

As I highlighted in my last correspondence, the exam period has now been published. As it stands, this year's formal summer examinations will begin on Monday 16th May. The last examination is scheduled to take place on Thursday 23rd June 2022, but there is also an exam contingency date of Wednesday 29th June. This date is in place should there be a disruption to the exam period. Holidays should not be booked until after this date. Students will receive a personalised copy of their exam timetable closer to the exam period, but I have attached a full summer timetable should you wish to look at this in advance.

During the final day of last half term, Year 11 had a bespoke form period focusing entirely on attendance. This allowed everyone to see the impact, in terms of lost learning, of not being in class. Students have been challenged with being attendance heroes this half term and push themselves to attend every day, that is 25 days until the Easter break. Students will be rewarded for their full attendance this half term and we thank you in advance for your support in ensuring your children are in school.

The package of activities to support independent learning and well-being will continue with-

- Form time revision
- Elevate sessions after school
- Catch up lessons

- Wellbeing activities run by the school Chaplain on a Thursday (meditation and relaxation) and a Wednesday lunch time sports club run by Miss Reynolds.

If your child would like to attend any of the wellbeing sessions, please ask them to see the named staff for further details.

If you require any further detail please do not hesitate to ask and I thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards

C Robertson

Carolyn Robertson
Assistant Principal Teaching & Learning and Staff Development.