



27<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In order to fully prepare our year 11 students for the challenges of the summer examination period we have planned a mock exam Fortnight beginning on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December** until **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. To give them a taste of the real experience we have arranged for this fortnight to be a period of study leave for all year 11 students, meaning that students are expected to be off-site at all other times when not sitting exams, and revising at home. This is a really vital skill for our students to learn, balancing their time between revision periods at home and exams in school. We have worked with students today during our L4S day and they should also use the KS4 Survival guide that was issued to them in year 10 for some helpful revision techniques. Copies of this are available on the academy website.

### **Exam Fortnight**

#### **Students have already received their personalised exam timetable.**

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> the usual timetable is suspended for "mock" exams. Please note that exams will start at either 8.35am, 10.55am, 11.20am or 2 pm. Students are advised to be at the exam room at least 15 minutes prior to the start time. Students are expected to attend exams and BTEC sessions in **full academy uniform**. Attendance at all relevant exam sessions is compulsory during the week.

The mock examinations are a crucial part of Year 11 students' preparation for their final GCSE examinations and should be approached with a similar degree of seriousness and effort. In a sense they are a "dress rehearsal" for the real thing, but additionally, they are part of the learning process required to ensure that students achieve to their potential in the summer. The process of revision and mock testing helps students to improve their knowledge and skills and this can be built upon even further in the summer. Conversely, failure to revise properly for mocks is bound to have a long-term detrimental effect on performance in the final exams. All exams will be held in our exam venues and will be overseen by exam invigilators. Students are responsible for bringing the correct equipment for exams and are advised to check what they need in advance with their subject teachers.

Students should approach these examinations with a determination to do their best and, therefore, prepare thoroughly. Each student's examination result will indicate overall attainment and illustrate how well a student is achieving compared to the targets set at the start of Key Stage 4. During the next few weeks students would be well advised to do some revision towards these examinations and therefore to act upon the advice and guidance given to them by their subject teachers in recent lessons, and the revision guide that was issued to every student earlier this month.

### **Results**

Following the exams, subject staff will mark the papers and use this information to write a full report for each student based on their strengths and areas for improvement. The reports will be published in the new year. We will also be holding a year 11 results assembly for students to receive their results.

Please support us in ensuring your child is fully prepared for these exams. As always, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me via the Academy number or email [myk.wagstaff@ormistonsandwell.org.uk](mailto:myk.wagstaff@ormistonsandwell.org.uk)

Many thanks for your continued support,

**Mr Myk Wagstaff**

Senior Leader – KS4 Progress Director.