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Headteacher: Mr W N Jenkins

7th February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

I am writing to inform you of the important mock exams which Post 16 students will sit in the week beginning 25th February. These examinations will be used alongside other assessments conducted as part of the course to allow the College to assess the progress students have made over Year 13, identify areas of strength and relative weakness, and to enable us to provide the best possible support for students in the lead up to final examinations in May and June.

Preparation and revision should already be well under way for these exams. The February half term holiday gives students some crucial preparation time in the week prior to these mock exams, and it is important that they spend this time wisely. Courses have different amounts of content, and students will need to allow time to revise year twelve units, as well as the work done in year thirteen.

There is a variety of ways to revise and students should speak to their tutors, teachers or myself if they are unsure where to start. Additionally, most subjects have placed consolidation and revision materials on Google Classroom and if the students have difficulty accessing these they should contact me. Revision, including completing past papers and looking over mark schemes, is very important and should become part of a regular weekly routine. Reading examiners' reports is an excellent way for students to learn more about key misconceptions and to understand what is needed for the highest grades.

Important assessments can add additional stress and worry. One of the best ways to feel in control is to organise a revision or study timetable and plan ahead. When planning this timetable, students should ensure they are also looking after themselves, finding down time to relax, eating well, getting exercise and plenty of sleep.

Additional support is available in many subjects in the form of after college support from teachers. Enclosed is a table summarising the support available. Also enclosed is the mock timetable, so you can see the precise timings for each of the papers. During the mock week, there will be no lessons during periods 1 or 4. Lessons will run as normal during periods 2 and 3. There will be no briefing or tutor time that week.

If students or parents/carers have any concerns at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Gillman Head of Progress – Post 16

