

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Welcome to year 11**

It is fantastic to welcome the year 11 students back to school and I hope that you have enjoyed the summer break. This letter will provide you with the important dates in the 2021-22 academic calendar as well as some additional information about exams and parents evenings. We are expecting GCSE exams to go ahead next summer and have therefore developed a programme to ensure that students are able to perform at their very best when the exams arrive.

### **Year 11 Success Evening**

Each year we hold an event during the autumn term which is designed to show students what they need to do in order to be successful in their GCSE exams. This year, the **'Year 11 Success Evening' will be held on Thursday 16 September 2021, from 5pm – 7pm**. The event will take place on-site in the Will Mackaness Hall, and will focus on the following areas:

1. Revision strategies and support
2. Intervention and mock exams
3. A look ahead to GCSE exam plans for summer 2022

There have been a significant number of changes to the 2022 GCSE qualifications and these will be covered in the presentations that you see. We want to ensure that all members of the school community know how we are adapting our plans to support students in year 11 this year and what students need to do in order to maximise their chances of success next summer.

### **Maximize Your Potential**

Students will take part in a workshop on 11 October 2021 which is designed to equip them with study skills and coping strategies for the GCSE exams. Feedback about these workshops is always very positive and we are looking forward to the session.

### **Mock Exams**

The first set of mock exams in year 11 will take place between Monday 15 November 2020 and Thursday 02 December 2021. We strongly recommend that students begin revising for these before half-term in order to give themselves enough time to develop long-term memory of essential exam knowledge. The November 2021 mock exam timetable and topics will be published to students and parents in the coming weeks.

A second set of mock exams will take place between Monday 07 February 2022 and Friday 18 February 2022.

#### **Wey Valley Academy**

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

[www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk](http://www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk)

E [office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk](mailto:office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk)

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN

### Parent Conference Evenings (PCE)

The year 11 PCEs will take place on the following dates this year:

- Thursday 14 October 2021
- Thursday 13 January 2022
- Thursday 07 April 2022

A parent survey will be emailed to you ahead of each PCE. We would be very appreciative if you could fill in the surveys when they are sent to you, so that we can incorporate your feedback into our school improvement plan.

### Careers

Year 11 students will receive careers support and guidance throughout the academic year. Mrs Rogers, our careers lead, is able to answer any questions you may have about making applications to sixth-forms, colleges and apprenticeship or employment programmes. She can be contacted using the following email address: [jenny.rogers@weyvalley-academy.co.uk](mailto:jenny.rogers@weyvalley-academy.co.uk). Students should aim to make initial applications to further education providers or apprenticeship programmes by 18 December 2021.

If you have any questions about the content of this letter or if you would like to discuss the support that we can offer to students in year 11, please contact me using the information below.

Yours faithfully,



Thomas Neill

Email: [Thomas.neill@weyvalley-academy.co.uk](mailto:Thomas.neill@weyvalley-academy.co.uk)

Telephone: 01305 817000

#### Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

[www.weyvalley-academy.co.uk](http://www.weyvalley-academy.co.uk)

E [office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk](mailto:office@weyvalley-academy.co.uk)

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN