



WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY

29 May 2018

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Dear Parent/Carer

Year 12 Examinations and Key Dates

GCE and Vocational Examinations

As we approach the final term of our academic year, I wanted to take this opportunity to both share information with you and to clarify the expectations we have of our Year 12 students.

Many of our students are following courses which have already had a formal external assessment this month. Equally, **those subjects not externally assessed will have formal mock exams in the week beginning June 25th: Art; History; Geography; Drama; Law; English Literature; Photography and Music.**

Student performance in both these types of end of year exams, in addition to our normal assessment data, informs our assessment about whether expected progress is being made by students in each subject, and hence which interventions which might be necessary in order to support Year 13 academic study.

The subjects which have completed external assessments have already started teaching the Year 13 curriculum. It is very important to understand that Key Stage 5 courses are two-year, seamless courses, with no gap in teaching, and certainly no 'holiday' in the final term of Year 12. This can be a difficult concept for new Sixth Formers, especially following from Year 11 experiences, so we would ask for your support in ensuring that academic focus is maintained and excellent levels of attendance are continued. Similarly, normal times of the school day and Sixth Form dress code expectations remain as before.

Indeed, we are very excited that Year 12 students are shortly to become the senior students of the school, as our Year 13 students prepare to leave. With that come elections for Head Boy and Head Girl, and numerous other ways of contributing through leadership.

May Half-Term (28th May- 1st June) Sixth Form opening

On Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th the Sixth Form Study centre will be open for all Sixth Form students between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm. It will function as a quiet study area, as it has throughout this exam period. Students should sign in when they arrive for fire regulations.

Wednesday June 27th: WFA Careers Fair; July (date tbc) Higher Education Information event

In order to support future progression plans, all Year 12 students will be attending our **Careers Fair on Wednesday 27 June**. However, in addition, we have an extended careers event for parents to access on the day of the Fair, between 4 and 6pm. More details will be following both about that, and a Higher Education Information event for parents and carers, in July. Throughout next term there will be extensive focus on preparing students for post-18 options.

Week's experience of work: July 2 - 6

The Government expectation is that all Sixth Form students will have a week's experience of work. Thank you for your interest and support: your thoughts and encouragement have been very helpful. Equally, we have a dedicated member of staff Mrs Fosbrook who has been consistently advising and supporting students.

Where a placement has not yet been arranged, the half-term week is an ideal opportunity to talk again with your son or daughter about possibilities. Experience of work can include work-shadowing, giving time to a charity, even looking at different and higher-level work responsibilities where students might already be part-time working. Critically, experience of work is about showing initiative, and developing many other key 'employability' skills in an unfamiliar workplace. Our Year 13 students benefited from it enormously for their UCAS applications, as well as providing evidence for our school references.

Results Day and Future Plans

AS results day, this year, is **Thursday 16th August 2018**. **Our Year 12 students are able to pick up results from 10 am, an hour after Year 13 students.**

I will be in school, along with key colleagues, to join our students in celebrating their success but also on **Friday 17th August** to give individual advice and support to Year 12 students regarding any Year 13 progression issues. You will understand I'm sure that Thursday is a priority day for Year 13.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate your son or daughter in managing the very considerable demands of stepping up from GCSE to A Level and Level 3 vocational courses. This is not an easy process. As they now become the leaders of the school, there will be many more opportunities for our students to help shape both their own futures and that of WFA Sixth Form. This is an exciting time and thank you also for your continued interest.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to be in touch should you have any queries or concerns.

With kind regards.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Louise Mann
Head of Sixth Form