



8th June 2021

Dear Year 12 Parents/Carers

We are delighted with how Year 12 are maturing as a year group in school and we are very much enjoying working with them as a group of young adults. We wanted to share some important information with you as this term begins.

Summer Assessments

In light of the disruption students have faced this year due to the pandemic, we want to give subject departments flexibility in how they assess students as we approach the end of Year 12. Summer assessments will take place in classrooms this term. Depending on what is most appropriate, in some subjects, students will sit a part past paper or series of past paper questions and in other subjects, students will complete a full paper, sat over a couple of lessons. Teachers will advise students when their assessments will be and give them details about the format. Building on a presentation earlier in the year on revision, Mrs McKenzie has delivered a session about revision strategies to enable students to prepare.

Students will also complete subject assessments in the early Autumn of Year 13, to help them to prepare for their January Mock Examinations. The results of both sets of assessments will contribute towards UCAS predicted grades, which will be confirmed with students in October.

Careers Education

Students have recently heard presentations in school about university, degree/higher apprenticeships and gap years. We have also posted a booklet on Show My Homework to enable them to complete guided research into their preferred options. This term, we will be delivering sessions on Personal Statements and Student Finance, as well as workshops on registering for UCAS, Oxbridge and CV writing for apprenticeships. All students will submit a first draft of their Personal Statement at the end of Year 12 to get personalised feedback as they return in Year 13 in September. If students have not yet decided what they want to do, they can write a more general Personal Statement for adapting later in Year 13.

We would normally hold our 'Life after Waddesdon' event for parents/carers in the summer term, but we are unable to do this due to the pandemic. Please see attached for a booklet that we have written for you instead about the different post 18 pathways so you can support your son/daughter from home. If you have any questions or your son/daughter would like an early careers appointment with Mrs Bridges, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

If your son/daughter would like to attend a university open day, we encourage students to do this, where possible, at the weekend. If the open day is during term time, the student should let Miss Hay know. We are able to authorise two days of absence from school during the summer term for this purpose.

Prefect Training

We were delighted with the number of students who have applied to be Prefects to help us to lead the Waddesdon Way. We are running Prefect training after school on Monday 14th June from 3.20pm to 4.45pm for students who have been appointed and look forward to working with students then.

Summer Dress Code

As we move into the summer months, we have reminded students about our summer business dress code again, in case they are buying clothes. Please see the details below:

For all students:

- A formal suit jackets/blazer must be worn at all times (we do relax this when it gets very warm, but students should have their blazers with them every day)
- Jeans, skinny jeans, jeggings or hoodies are not permitted
- Shorts, flip flops, beach sandals, Doc Martin boots and trainer-like footwear should not be worn
- A nose stud is permitted, but it must be a small, simple stud

For young men:

- Short sleeved shirts may be worn instead of long sleeved shirts
- Ties continue to be worn (we do relax this in very hot weather and let students know when this is the case)

For young women:

- Summer dresses and skirts may be worn, but they must be of a length and fit suitable for the school environment. Denim and leather fabric are not permitted
- Sleeveless tops and dresses are permitted, but these should have thick straps to cover shoulders, must not be see-through or show midriff - strappy vest tops are not permitted

Thank you for your ongoing support from home.

Yours sincerely

Mrs McKenzie
Head of Year 12

Ms McIver
Head of Sixth Form