



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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10 November 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

To Parents and Guardians of Year 11 Pupils Examination Arrangements and Careers Advice

Your son will be sitting School Examinations, commencing Monday 28 November until Friday 2 December 2016 which are to prepare him for the public examinations in the summer. *This is with the exception of students who are taking Art; they will begin on Friday 25 November.* No study leave will be granted during this period. Boys will follow their normal timetable during the examination period, attending their examinations when appropriate. Your son will have received his own individual timetable for the examination period. Lessons will not continue in the normal format, but will be supervised revision slots, where boys can revise the subjects of their choice. The whole year group will be dismissed following completion of the Maths calculator paper on the afternoon of Friday 2 December.

There is a checklist to accompany this letter to help the boys in their planning for this period; boys have also received a copy of this checklist in their school emails. The examination results will be used to inform the decisions made with regard to the tier of entry for your son in the GCSE papers. You will, therefore, receive a full report on your son's examination performance issued on Friday 20 January 2017. There will be an opportunity to discuss these results with us at the Parents' Consultation Evening on Thursday 26 January 2017. However, you should not regard this meeting as the only time when you can talk with us about any issues.

Students in Year 11 are offered Careers Interviews conducted by our Independent Careers Adviser which are intended to develop ideas and direct thinking towards specific goals for the future. All options available at 16+ are discussed including Apprenticeships and the most suitable patterns of study, either at BWS or other institutions, as may be appropriate to a boy's aims and abilities. We hope that these career interviews will lead to a full discussion in the home. Mrs Sally Armstrong, the Independent Careers Adviser, and myself will be pleased to help with any matters that arise from this process.

I would like to remind you of the requirements that are laid down for admission to our Sixth Form which are that pupils require 6 or more GCSE A*-B grades, including Mathematics and English Language, or at 9 to 6 in reformed courses, to secure their place. Individual AS/A2 level courses have their own grade requirements, as outlined in the school Sixth Form Brochure. In addition, importance is attached to the range of grades achieved across all subjects taken and the pupil's attitude to academic work and the school as observed by his teachers in Years 10 and 11. It must be emphasised that should the pressure on space become too great, it will be those with minimal qualifications who will be at a disadvantage.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M J Jenner
Head of Middle School

PRELIM NOTES: INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

1	Check your timetable that has been issued. If you have any problems/queries with it please see Mrs Glasson immediately.
2	Please register at 8:45 each morning in your tutor base. You will attend normal lessons for supervised revision if you are not timetabled for an exam. Please try to arrive outside of the examination room 10 minutes prior to the start of your exam. Wait in a quiet and orderly manner outside the examination room until instructed to take your places which will be identified by your examination card. Listen carefully to staff in charge of the examinations about how to proceed.
3	Take a minimum of materials. No bags in the Exam Room. Please use lockers or bag racks provided. Take essential writing equipment (pens with black ink must be used), pencils, ruler, drawing instruments etc. <u>in a transparent bag or case, including spares.</u> No correcting pens, fluid or tape, highlighters or gel pens should be used.
4	<p><u>Using Calculators.</u></p> <p>Candidates must ensure the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cases and instructions are not allowed. Make sure your name is on the calculator. - Calculators must be of a suitable size, either battery or solar powered. - Candidates are responsible for the power supply and working condition. - Calculators must NOT be designed or adapted to offer: language translators; symbolic algebra manipulation; symbolic differentiation or integration; communication with other machines or the internet; and must NOT have retrievable information stored in them including databanks, dictionaries, mathematical formulas and text. <p>- <i>No calculator may be borrowed from another candidate during an examination for any reason.</i></p>
5	No Mobile Phones , iPods, iWatches, MP3/4 players, no potential technological/web enabled resources of information; no products with an electronic communication/storage device or digital facility are to be taken into the examination room. For security they should be stored in your lockers or, preferably not brought into the school at all. <u>Candidates in possession of such equipment during an examination may be disqualified.</u> Remember to switch off any alarm on your watch.
6	No eating is permitted, even of sweets. You may bring your own water in clear bottles with labels removed. NO canned drinks allowed.
7	If you need to take medication for asthma, diabetes etc in the examination room let the invigilator know <u>before</u> the start of the exam.
8	You will not be allowed to leave the exam room before the end of the time allotted to the paper.
9	Should the examination room have to be evacuated in an emergency, follow instructions given by the invigilator. You should leave all examination materials in the room. When leaving the room and the building and when assembled at the given location you should remain SILENT – as if still in the examination. Await further instructions.
10	If your examination finishes earlier than normal lesson times you will be expected to return to your normal classroom within 10 minutes of being dismissed from the examination room.
11	Lastly, Good Luck