



June 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Transition from Year 9 into Year 10

We are rapidly approaching the end of this academic year and would like to turn our attention towards the transition of our Year 9 students from their Key Stage 3 curriculum into Key Stage 4 and GCSEs; Year 9 option choices will be confirmed next week.

We are aware that this is a very important time in your child's academic life and want to ensure that both students and parents are confident about what the next steps involve and how we can work together as a team to ensure that the transition is successful. As a school, we aim to prepare our students by teaching them the skills necessary to become resilient and independent learners and ensure that they understand the importance of developing revision skills right from the beginning of their GCSE courses.

With that in mind, in form time this half term we will be rolling out a series of activities that are designed to prepare the students for the transition to Year 10. This will include: expectations of students as they go into KS4; tips on how to get into the habit of reviewing daily learning; the correct mindset for success; how to manage anxiety; and different revision techniques.

The school has also engaged Dr Martijn van der Spoel, a renowned psychologist specialising in exam preparation and motivation who works extensively with schools, to work with the students as a year group, beginning with a session on 10 September. He has worked extremely successfully with our students over the past few years and we look forward to Year 9 benefiting from his advice.

As parents, we are sure that you will also want to assist your son/daughter with this process and, with this in mind, we have planned a Parents' Information Evening on Thursday 19 September to provide you with more information about expectations, revision techniques and ways of supporting your child through his/her exams. Please do put this date in your calendar as your son/daughter's success will be far greater with your support.

I am very much looking forward to guiding the year group through the next couple of years and the exciting challenges ahead; the students have consistently proved that they are a fantastic group and I know that they will really flourish and strive to achieve their potential.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding transition please do contact me.

Yours sincerely

Miss S Gee
Head of Year 9