



Dear Year 11 Parents,

PPE results day and holiday homework

On Tuesday 17th December, the Year 11 students will be given the results (grades) for the PPEs completed this term. Sitting these mock exams is an essential part of Year 11. The students have now experienced the challenge of sitting multiple papers in a short space of time and this helps them to understand what the final GCSEs will feel like.

For many students, some of the PPE results will be lower than the GCSE grades they are aiming for next summer. From this moment on, if students work hard in lessons, listen to their teachers' advice, attend school and complete all homework and revision tasks, they have an excellent chance of improving any PPE results they are not happy with. Seeing the results printed next week can be a very motivating experience as students start thinking about how they can ensure they will be looking at better results in the summer.

Some students find the PPE results experience challenging. While this is an important part of the Year 11 journey, we also need to support them at the end of a long and tiring term. When students are given their results slip on Tuesday, they will also be given time to complete a reflection on these results and plan their next steps and homework. They will be given more detailed feedback on their PPE papers in January.

Year 11 students will also be set work for the Christmas holiday. This work will provide vital next steps from the PPE – reviewing content students did not understand well or working on knowledge and skills essential for their next stages of GCSE preparation. We will send you an overview of the work set: we anticipate that this holiday work will take around five days to complete, giving students over a week of complete rest before returning next term.

Here's what you can do to help at the end of term:

- **Reassure and encourage your son or daughter.** The PPE results are an important stepping stone but students should not allow any low grades destroy their confidence. Try to avoid using words like 'fail' and instead look at the lessons they can learn.
- **Make sure they complete the holiday homework.** Every student is being set purposeful work in each GCSE subject which will help them to secure the grades they want. A good tip for holiday revision is for students to follow their usual school timetable. This is an easy way to plan time and balance subjects without having to draw up a complex and unsustainable revision timetable. Lessons like Core PE can be used for filling in gaps (or even doing some exercise).

Thanks once again for your support... and Merry Christmas (when it gets here)!

Joe Curtis
Assistant Headteacher