



19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

There was a real buzz of excitement at Options Evening on Wednesday. Families had the opportunity to learn more about each subject on offer from our teachers in addition to understanding more about the selection process from Mr Thompson. For those unable to make the event, we are holding a catch up session for students this morning. You can see an online copy of the booklet, along with the key dates in the options process, [on our website](#).

Year 11 received their mock exams on Monday, and we stressed the importance of potential at this crucial stage. We have 62 school days before the actual GCSE exams begin; now is the time to unleash that potential to address any gaps in knowledge. In my visits to lessons during the week, Year 11 have been focused and working hard. I'm very proud of them all and have the confidence and belief in their ultimate success – as long as they are complementing what happens in lessons by working at home too.

Further strategies for this will be discussed on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> at our next raising achievement event, but the strategies around effective revision are equally important for all students. I encourage you to have a look at [the 'helping your child learn' section of our website](#) for some practical ideas and support.

Finally, it has been a chilly few days with our first flurry of snow this year. Although the thermometers look set to rise as we go into the weekend, I wanted to remind you all of what will happen in the event of a school closure due to weather. The quickest place to check if school is closed is by checking our website – this will be updated by 7am on the morning of any closure with a pop up message on our homepage. We will also share this information on our social platforms – Twitter and Facebook.

With best wishes for the (slightly warmer) weekend

Mr Dan Bagshaw

Head of School