

20<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

### **Marshland Year 11 Update**

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself as the new Assistant Headteacher in charge of Key Stage 4 (Years 10&11).

My role is to support your child to be fully prepared to fulfil their potential in their GCSE exams, and their onward education and career once they leave us after Year 11. My aim is to encourage, recognise and reward your child's endeavours, whilst encouraging them in lessons and interventions. I am looking forward to working with you and your child in this very exciting, yet demanding year, and to meeting you in person in the coming weeks and months.

At Marshland High School we are interested in offering our students a variety of opportunities to further extend their knowledge and understanding of a subject beyond the normal classroom situation. Therefore, we have created an intervention plan, designed to give students a tailored approach to the additional support that they may require.

Attached is a list of key dates, to help you plan how you can support and encourage your child. Our Intervention calendar is also attached. These are always available on our website, and updated throughout the year.

### **Next Steps**

Students will initially be identified as needing to attend after-school sessions or Saturday morning sessions from teacher's knowledge of effort, gaps in core knowledge, concerns about end of course predictions, coursework that must be completed to the required deadlines or the opportunity to increase grades. The impact that these interventions had on last year's GCSE students' progress was significant, with students achieving between half and a full grade higher than their expected grade.

Students at risk of not meeting expectations to reach their potential will be required in school from 3.15pm until 4.15pm for subject specific intervention sessions or at an allocated time (between 8am-11am) on a Saturday morning.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact your child's teacher or Head of Department in the first instance.

During December, we will send you a detailed guide to your child's exams which outlines rules and regulations as well as FAQs (frequently asked questions).

### **Attendance**

Attendance to school has always been vital but it is even more important in year 11. The school data from Marshland's summer 2022 GCSE results, demonstrated that students whose attendance was 96% or higher, achieved a grade higher than their predicted grade in all their subjects, whilst children with an attendance below 93% achieved a grade lower than expected. This evidence clearly states the importance of your child being at school every day.

| <b>ATTENDANCE Percentage</b> | <b>Above or below expected grade</b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 96% and above                | 1 Grade Higher than expected         |
| Between 93% and 96%          | Achieved expected grade              |
| Below 90%                    | 1 Grade or more lower than expected  |

### **Leavers Prom and Reward Trips**

Plans have started for our celebration Leavers Prom next Summer. Those students whose attendance to school and interventions is 94% or higher, have an excellent attitude to learning and strong progress will be rewarded with an invite to attend. The Prom is not an entitlement for all students, it is a reward for those students who consistently follow the expectations of the school. Students with attendance lower than 94%, do not have a good attitude to learning and therefore are not making good progress are at significant risk of not receiving an invite to attend the school prom. I am sure that you will work with us to ensure that your child is invited to what is a very special occasion for them.

Students will have opportunity to participate on two reward-based trips during year 11. Both reward trips will take place after the PPE exams in November 2022 and February 2023 with students invited based on their excellent attendance, attitude to learning and strong progress in preparing for each set of assessments. More details of these trips will be available closer to the time.

### **Post-16 Options**

A key area for students in year 11 is preparation for life after Marshland High School and Post-16 Options. The school works closely with the University of East Anglia (UEA), who will be providing your child with guidance and support in making informed decisions regarding their future. Attached you will find information to help you understand the 'Open Day' process that sixth forms and colleges offer and how you can support your child with their next steps.

We look forward to a successful Year 11 for all of our students, and as always thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

*C Teanby*

**Mr C Teanby**

**Assistant Headteacher - Key Stage 4**

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