

October 2019

To all parents/carers of year 11 students

Dear parent/carer,

Now that your child has settled into year 11, we thought we would write with some important and useful information for the year ahead. It will invariably be a very quick year and we understand that there is a lot of information to share at various points.

### **Key dates for next half term**

#### **Autumn Term**

w/c Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019: Y11 mathematics and science examinations begin  
(End on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019).

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019: Y11 Raising Achievement Evening at 6.00pm.

w/c Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019: Y11 PPEs begin  
(End on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019).

\*\*Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019: Post 16 Open Evening 6.00 – 8.00pm.\*\*

w/c Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019: 6<sup>th</sup> form taster weeks?  
(End Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019).

#### **Spring Term**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019: Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening with subject teachers at 3.30pm.

#### **PPEs (Pre Public Examinations)**

We are holding two sets of PPEs in the next few weeks; one set will be conducted w/c Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November for mathematics and science and another set w/c Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November for all other subjects. These examinations will be conducted in the Gyms/Sportshall under full examination conditions replicating the actual Public Examinations in every detail.

Currently, mathematics, science, French and German have Higher and Foundation tiers of entry. The outcomes of the PPEs will inform subject teachers and Leaders of Teaching and Learning as to which tier of entry your child will sit. Foundation papers allow students to gain grades 1 – 5 and Higher papers from grades 4/5 to 9. This decision of entry is largely based on performance in the PPEs and can change between the November PPEs and those in February 2020. Students will not be moved to a higher tier unless their performance shows the capability and track record required. It is therefore very important your child revises thoroughly for each subject area, treating the PPEs as a 'real' practice run for the public examinations.

#### **Public Examinations: Further Information**

Provisional dates for each of the public examinations have now been published by examination boards and are available on their websites. We are in the process of collating a schedule of all public examinations for Eckington students which can be used for planning purposes. Further information regarding this will be sent out in due course. Nearer the time, your child will of course receive a personalised examination timetable.

#### **Sixth Form Applications**

Many/most of our students choose to remain at Eckington School for the Sixth Form. We are very fortunate to have a team solely comprised of subject specialist teachers in the Sixth Form. Our class sizes are attractive and the ease of transition from year 11 into the Sixth Form enables teachers to provide strong support and personalised learning opportunities. The vast majority of students will also be able to move through into the Sixth Form with the form tutor who has 'looked after them' through school. In addition to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 6.00pm, we will also be offering all students:

- An individual consultation with a member of the Sixth Form team to discuss entrance requirements, options and plans;
- Sixth Form taster days/taster lessons to enable students to experience life in the Sixth Form and sample some lessons; and
- The opportunity to listen to our current Sixth Form talking about life in year 12/13, and to ask them questions.

Mr Keens, SLT with responsibility for Sixth Form, Mr Wright and/or Mrs Carlile, our LoSDs for Sixth Form and/or Mrs Roberts, LoSD for Year 11, will all be very happy to discuss any questions you, or your child, may have.

Yours faithfully

A Burgess  
Principal