

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017

Dear Parent

## Summer Examinations for Years 10 to 13

I thought I would write to you regarding the arrangements for the summer exams which are understandably at the forefront of the minds of our Year 10 to Year 13 students. The full exam timetable can be viewed on our website in the calendar of events section and students have already received their own personalised list of the exams that they will sit between May 16<sup>th</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup>. Details of the examination arrangements are given below, including some specific information for each year group.

Morning Exams		Afternoon Exams	
Warm Up with Class Teacher	8.45-9.00am	Warm Up with Class Teacher	12.45-1.00pm
Walk Across to Exam	9.00am	Walk Across to Exam	1.00pm
Exam Starts	9.15am	Exam Starts	1.15pm

### Equipment for All Examinations

It is essential that all students are fully equipped for their examinations. All students should ensure that they bring along several pens containing black ink, a pencil and ruler. For Maths exams, students should also bring along their calculator for the relevant papers. It is not acceptable to use a mobile device as a calculator. We have minimal equipment available to loan to students in the exam rooms so we thank you for helping your child leave the house well equipped on the morning of their exams.

### Year 10 Examinations

Students in Year 10 will undertake a series of internal examinations in a range of subjects towards the end of June and the beginning of July. This will give them vital experience of what it is like to sit a full programme of formal examinations and to receive important feedback on their exam technique half way through their GCSE courses. There will be no exam leave for Year 10 students.

### Year 11 Examinations

We know that our Year 11 students benefit hugely from being taught right up to their exams and so we will once again this year be keeping our Year 11 students in school throughout the first half of the exam timetable. Exam leave for our Year 11 students will begin at the end of the day on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017. This day precedes an important English exam on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017. During Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017, all Year 11 students will follow their normal timetable for lessons 1, 2 and 3 and will then benefit from a double English session during lessons 4 and 5.

After this date, students are welcome to attend normal lessons with their teachers, particularly for the subjects in which they still have exams. All Year 11 students are expected to attend normal lessons right up to the end of Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

Year 11 students will need to wear their normal school uniform for all of their examinations and when they come in to school to attend normal lessons. Students who arrive at school and are not wearing correct dress code will jeopardise their ability to sit their exams. Similarly, students who

choose not to meet our expectations regarding exams may not be allowed to attend the Year 11 Leavers' Ball on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017 for which a letter will follow.

Two years ago we introduced class teacher warm up sessions for our Year 11 students which were very well received by students and parents. We will be continuing the warm ups this year as they help to both remind students of key information and to enter the examination in a calm frame of mind.

### **Year 12 Examinations**

Our Year 12 students will be completing a small number of external exams alongside a series of internal exams which will replace the AS Levels taken by previous Year 12 students. This will enable our Year 12 students to assess how well they are progressing in their A Level studies without experiencing an unhelpful break in their normal lessons.

These arrangements are now quite common in Sixth Forms and there will therefore be no exam leave for our Year 12 students who will continue with their normal timetable around any internal examinations. I am sure you share our desire to ensure that our Year 12 students make the most of all of the learning time they have available and we are keen to continue the momentum right throughout the summer term.

### **Year 13 Examinations**

We know that our Year 13 students benefit hugely from being taught right up to their exams and so we will once again this year be keeping our Year 13 students in school throughout the first half of the exam timetable. Year 13 exam leave will begin at the end of the day on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017. After this date, students are welcome to come in to school to prepare for their exams with the help of their class teacher or to make use of the Sixth Form area and Library for their own private study.

Last year we introduced class teacher warm up sessions for our Year 13 students which were very well received by students and parents. We will be continuing the warm ups this year as they help to both remind students of key information and enter the examination in a calm frame of mind.

We know that this can be a challenging time for our students who rely on their parents and their school to provide them with a supportive environment in the days leading up to the first exams. Do please get in touch if you would like any further information or if you feel that your child would benefit from further support. I will write to the parents of Year 11 and Year 13 students later in the summer to let you know about the arrangements for results days during August.

Finally, on behalf of the staff and governors of The Lakes School, we send all of our students the very best wishes for their forthcoming exams and we look forward to celebrating your achievements later in the summer and at our awards evening in September.

Yours sincerely



Andy Cunningham  
Headteacher

