



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

8th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now in our final half term of Year 10. Students have completed over half of their Key Stage 4 courses. This time next year, they will be sitting final examinations and coming to the end of their time with us at Thornhill. In this final half term, it is our intention to ensure that all students are fully prepared for Year 11 and the hard-work and pressure that this brings.

Students have made a very positive start to their studies; however, it is now time to raise the bar to ensure they can all meet their full potential. Our expectations of students will raise in terms of their attitudes towards learning and assessments and their commitment to revision and independent study. This week, students will have their first in a series of assemblies to prepare them for this. We will discuss the mind-set needed to be successful and set out the expectations over the next 6 weeks that will support this. These expectations are outlined below:

End of year Mock examinations:

- To ensure we have up to date and accurate assessment information ready for September, students will complete round of formal assessments for each subject.
- Students will learn more about formal exam conditions and expectations and will have the opportunity to complete some assessments in our formal exam venues.
- Subjects will provide students and parents with Mock GCSE Grades and use these assessments to ensure interventions are in place to accelerate progress.

Study skills and exam preparation:

- There will be an increasing expectation for students to regularly revise independently.
- Throughout Year 11, the students' day is extended to include a period 6 lesson. This is 30 minutes of additional preparation and revision with specialist teachers.
- Year 10 will be issued a personalised period 6 timetable running up to their examinations.
- All students are expected to attend every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. This will start on Monday 13th June.

Maximising Grades Sessions:

- Whilst we focus our attention to the students and preparing them for their examinations, we also want to support parents and offer the guidance you need to support at home.
- We will be holding our first 'Maximising Grades' session for parents and students to attend on Monday 18th July- save the date!
- Here you will receive the Mock examination grades from the assessments as well as finding out about how best to support students from home.
- We will communicate information about the parents' event over the next few weeks.

We would like to thank you in advance for joining us to raise the expectations of our students. I have no doubt that with your support, students will rise to these challenges and achieve their very best.

Mrs C Crooks
Assistant Headteacher