



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

29th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been so impressed with the way that Year 10 have responded to the raised expectations this half term. In this final half term, we will work together to ensure that all students are fully prepared for Year 11 and the hard-work and pressure that this brings. Our expectations of students will continue to raise in terms of their attitudes towards learning and assessments and their commitment to revision and independent study. Now our current Year 11 have left students are well and truly ready to step up. We want to keep our communication with parents high and look forward to meeting with you all at our first Maximising Grades session on Wednesday 20th July. First, below is an update on what year 10 have been focusing on over the last few weeks.

End of year Mock Examinations are well underway, the purpose of these is:

- To ensure we have up to date and accurate assessment information ready for September.
- To ensure that students learn more about formal exam conditions and expectations.
- For subjects to provide students and parents with Mock GCSE Grades.
- To use these assessments to ensure interventions are in place to accelerate progress.

Study skills and revision is increasing:

- Lesson drop ins are showing how well students are getting prepared for their assessments as well as revising and securing their knowledge.
- P6 sessions are attended 3 days a week, the expectation of this will continue into Year 11.
- There will be an increasing expectation for students to regularly revise independently, not just in the run up to assessments. This will be a focus of homework for all subjects.

Maximising Grades Sessions will become a regular opportunity for parents to engage with school and support their child. We will be holding our first 'Maximising Grades' session for parents and students which will focus on:

- Students and parents opening and reviewing Mock Grades together.
- Why attendance and revision are so important for success.
- Key strategies that can be used to maximise revision over time.

We would like all parents to join us on Wednesday 20th July at 4.30pm in our Tom Cowie Centre. We cannot stress the importance of parental engagement in supporting the progress of students in these important years. Please can we ask you to indicate your attendance by completing this brief form via the link below by 8th July:

<https://forms.office.com/r/pGfzQ8VvT8>

Thank you all 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.

Cherry Crooks
Assistant Head Teacher