



Our ref: RHG/ko

12 September 2022

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College

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Dear Parent/Carer

## Welcome Back

Headteacher : Jennie Giovanelli

At the start of such an important academic year, I thought it would be helpful to outline the year ahead and provide some information on how the school and I will support your child through the final year of their GCSE courses.

The journey through Year 11 can bring many challenges, including; completing the course syllabus, meeting coursework deadlines, and developing effective revision and exam techniques. It can be a stressful and daunting year, however I would like to extend our support to you for the year ahead: every single member of staff here at Kingsthorpe College is absolutely dedicated to supporting you and your child throughout this time.

## Home-School Communication

Communication is very important to us here at Kingsthorpe College so I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Year 11 team. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr Wright – Head of Year 11

Mrs Rodger – Learning Director for English

Mr Heffernan – Deputy Head of Year 11

Miss Turner – Learning Director for Maths

Mr Anakwa – Strategic Lead for Year 11

Mr Kent – Learning Director for Science

Achievement

Mrs Gant – Deputy Headteacher

Additionally, our Year 11 tutor team bring a vast range of experience and will be your first point of contact should any issues arise. If you have any subject specific issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's subject teachers or our Learning Directors.

## Year 11 Classes and Setting

Your child may have changed classes or moved sets since their Trial Exam results in Year 10. This information will be shown on your child's timetable. All setting decisions are made in the best interests of your child, but if you do have any further questions in relation to this, then please don't hesitate to contact your child's tutor, or our Learning Directors for English, maths and science. For your information, this is what the class codes on your child's timetable mean:



**English** – all classes are taught in 'mixed ability' groupings. Groups 1 and 2 might have a higher number of students who have achieved highly in the past but there is no 'higher' or 'foundation' tier.

**Maths** – maths classes are put into sets from 1 to 5. Sets 1 and 2 follow the Higher Tier (grades 4-9) and sets 3 to 5 follow the Foundation Tier (grades 1 – 5).

**Science** – science classes are put into sets from 1 to 5. Set 1 follow the Higher Tier (grades 4-9) and sets 2 to 5 follow the Foundation Tier (grades 1 – 5).

Please note that following the Trial Exams this term, it may be that some students are moved from the Foundation to Higher tiers and vice versa if they show potential to improve, or if they are at risk of a U grade. This will be communicated with your child individually by their class teacher or Learning Director.

## **Support and Opportunities for Year 11**

We aim to enhance the Year 11 experience by providing opportunities for both our parents and students. You will find a summary below that details the main events that will take place this year. Of course, we are all aware of the final GCSE exams that will soon be upon us in May, so it is important to us that we give our students the best opportunities to prepare for these. We will hold two sets of Trial Exams during November and March that all students will sit. These will be enhanced by a post-exams programme of providing students with the experience of Results Day, and providing Personalised Learning Checklists (PLCs) which identify areas of strength and weakness for you and your child to create a topic-based revision programme.

Students will have the opportunity to receive mentoring, and this will be bespoke depending on an individual's needs. Mentoring could take place to help a student improve in a particular subject, a need to increase effort within or outside the classroom, or to support with wellbeing and coping with exam stress. Some of this mentoring will come from the creation of subject specialist tutor groups which we will be launching following the November Trial Exams, depending on individual student needs. From October half-term, we will also be launching competitions for all students who use our Century Tech platform.

## **After School Revision**

Finally, you will have received a letter from Mr Anakwa with the full details of our period 6 revision timetable beginning from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September. We will be creating a bespoke timetable for your child which can be seen on your child's school timetable. Your child should use their end of Year 10 Trial Exam results to help them decide which revision sessions to prioritise.

## **Key Dates for your Diary**

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022      **Meet the Tutor** Evening (15:30 – 18:00)

20<sup>th</sup> October 2022      **Year 11 Progress Evening** with subject teachers (15:30 – 19:00)

4<sup>th</sup> November 2022      **Year 11 Trial Exams 1**

24 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	<b>Post-16 Open Evening</b> (18:00 – 20:00)
15 <sup>th</sup> December Exams 1	<b>Results and progress monitoring report</b> published from Trial
10 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	<b>Vocational Exams</b> begin
12 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	<b>Year 11 Success Fayre</b> (17:30 – 19:00)
30 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	<b>Year 11 Trial Exams 2</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 Exams 2	<b>Results and progress monitoring report</b> published from Trial
24 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>Year 11 Revision Weekend</b>
8 <sup>th</sup> May – 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 (tbc)	<b>GCSE Exams</b> begin
6 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 (tbc)	<b>Year 11 Prom</b> (criteria for attendance and attitude to learning exist)

As Deputy Headteacher for Achievement, I am excited about the year ahead and know how proud we will all be of Kingsthorpe College's Class of 2023 when their results arrive in August. I know our students have an enormous amount of potential, as well as an extremely supportive environment in school which should enable them to thrive and achieve their full potential. It is, however, vital that we don't underestimate the hard work needed to be successful, and that all parties work collectively to support our students in dreaming big, working hard, and staying humble.

I look forward to meeting you over the course of this academic year and if you do require any further advice or information in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Rhiannon Gant

Deputy Headteacher