



# Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

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20 November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

## One Vision Programme

I am delighted to inform you that the Department for Education have confirmed that Duke's School will receive over £240,000 of additional funding over the next two years as part of the One Vision programme. This funding will be used to support strategies to improve GCSE results. The largest part of the funding has been allocated to provide additional teachers in English and Maths. The two additional teachers have already been appointed and will be used to provide small group and one to one support for students in Years 10 and 11 to accelerate progress.

The rest of the funding will be used in a variety of ways to support our students, such as providing GCSE revision guides for English, Maths and Science, providing additional after school and holiday revision sessions and work to support students with revision and exam preparation. We will also be running some additional sessions to help parents support their children during the exam period. All Year 11 students will have an individual interview with either me or one of our governors over the next two weeks. This will give each student the opportunity of a practice interview and will give us the chance to discuss how we can best support each student during the remainder of Year 11.

The extra funding will be used along with our existing resources as part of our development plan for Duke's School. The key priorities are:

1. Ensuring that students can recall the key knowledge they need to be successful in their exams, making this a key part of every lesson and supporting students to develop techniques to recall knowledge.
2. Focusing on behaviour for learning so that students make the most of their time, with high expectations and aspirations for all of our students.
3. Prioritising reading to make sure that our students can access the GCSE exam papers, which require a reading age of 15 years and 6 months.
4. Improving transition from primary to secondary school.
5. Working more closely with parents to support your child's learning.
6. Developing leadership qualities, self-confidence and resilience amongst our students.

I hope that you will agree that these are sensible and important priorities for us to develop and make the most of the additional funding to help our students succeed. Further information on revision sessions and parent support sessions will be issued by Mr Atkinson shortly.

Yours sincerely

Alan Hardie  
Chief Executive Officer



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