Headmaster: Dr P C Doherty OBE, BA (Hons), DPhil (Oxon), FRSA



Tuesday 29th June 2021

Dear Parents of Year 9,

On Thursday 15th July, the school is undertaking an important subject consultation day for the students in Year 10 and Year 12 and their parents. Individual parent/student meetings will be scheduled throughout the day involving all subject teachers to allow for in-depth feedback on students' progress in their GCSE and A-Level studies. These meetings follow on from end of year examinations, which were conducted under full examination conditions, in order to provide a realistic assessment of students' current performance and therefore vital information to inform teaching, targeted academic and pastoral support in the new academic year.

To facilitate meetings with parents and students, all students in Year 9 will be taught remotely for this day. This means that all Year 9 students will study from home on Thursday 15th July. The school has planned an alternative curriculum focused on personal development and wellbeing. All Year 9 students will take part in the following:

Period 1: Elevate Education (9:45am-11:00am)

Year 9 students will take part in an online seminar called 'Study Sensei' hosted by Elevate Education. The seminar will begin at 9.45am and end at 11am. The aim of this seminar is to help students to develop their independent learning skills and thus make the transition from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage S4 seamlessly.

Students will learn about how to structure their year and plan the resources they will need to work consistently throughout their GCSE course. Students will learn how to: utilise the GCSE syllabi and exam papers to frame their study; structure and review organised notes; adopt conceptual learning techniques to develop deep understanding and finally they will learn how to stand out from the crowd by being creative and going above and beyond what teachers set in the classroom.

Students will join the seminar via a link on Microsoft Teams. Cameras and microphones should remain off and students will participate in the seminar using the chat function. As in any live lesson, exemplary behaviour is expected of all students. We are sure that students will find this seminar beneficial.

Main School Office

Upper Site: Mornington Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TP Telephone: 020 8504-3419 Sydney Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TB Telephone: 020 8504-8946







Period 2: Work Experience (11:10am-12:40pm)

All Year 9 students will be given access to the Virtual Work Experience Platform (VWES), an online careers platform that the school has invested in this year. The platform gives students the opportunity to complete online work experience, as well as hosting many useful careers resources which students can use this time to explore. Students will receive log in details for the VWES platform and details of what to do on the day from Mrs Jones.

Periods 3 and 4: Wellbeing (1:10pm-3:30pm)

Year 9 students will complete a range of activities including sending a postcard to Team Great Britain competing in both the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, a Haiku challenge on wellbeing, completing a gratitude jar and finally a photo challenge on what makes them happy. These activities will be circulated to all students prior to Thursday 15th July and student engagement will be checked by their Form Tutors upon their return to school.

May I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your support regarding all of the above.

Yours sincerely,

Dr P C Doherty DPhil (Oxon) OBE

Headmaster

