

Prospect School

PROSPECT SCHOOL, READING

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10th July 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

Website: www.prospect.reading.sch.uk

New Year 11s

Headteacher: Mr Philip Davies

I would like to introduce myself as the new Head of Year 11. It is a privilege to play such an important part in your young person's education. I have been Head of Year 11 for the previous 2 years and my excellent team have a great track record of looking after students and delivering results. The Year 11 leadership team is here to guide, support and challenge the young people so they can achieve their full potential. We are always happy to discuss concerns and are a very solution based team.

The 'New' Year 11s are now entering into a very important stage of their educational journey and within the next 12 months they will be sitting their final GCSE examinations. Coursework is being finalised and submitted, controlled assessments are being completed and the final parts of the GCSE specifications are being taught before revision starts.

Over the past week, I have introduced to them what being part of the 'New Year 11' and the 'Class of 2018' is all about. The initial part of this update occurred during assembly when they were introduced to key points throughout the next 12 months, who their key members of staff are, what they can expect from us and what is going to be expected of them. Below is a summary of this information:

The Year:

- Approximately 30 school weeks of contact time and then the 2018 exam season starts.
- There will be 2 sets of PPE's (Pre Public Exams or Mock Exams) conducted – 1 pre-Christmas and 1 in February 2018.
- Individual Post 16 and Careers advice is available all year long.
- Exam season begins May 2018.

Key Staff:

- Mrs Clyne (Senior Hub Manager)
- Mr Alexander (HOY 11)
- Mrs Gibbs (Assistant Head – Outcomes)
- Mr Littlemore (Deputy Headteacher)

What your young person can expect from Prospect School:

- Targeted support from all of their classroom teachers.
- Intervention Tutor Groups – which adds 3 extra hours a fortnight, of small group work in a subject.
- Period 6's – a lot of students will find extra lessons added to their timetable between 3pm and 4pm.
- Revision sessions before school, during lunchtimes and after school.
- Catch up / revision sessions on the weekend and during school holidays.

What we expect of your young person in return:

- **Discipline** – meeting of the Year 11 standard in attendance, punctuality, uniform and 'being the best that you can be'.
- **Work Rate** – which is kept to a high level in all lessons. Each lesson has been described as 1 more training session before the exam. How can they expect to perform to their best in their exams, if they don't prepare in the correct way?
- **Honesty** – leave with no regrets in Year 11..... be honest with yourself and do everything you can to make your exam result the best you can.

As I am sure you are aware, GCSE exams are in transition and teachers are adapting to this. As you have seen from the recent PPE results the new specification exams are tough. They require students to be able to reproduce lots of knowledge and skills in their final examination without the benefit of coursework to help demonstrate their learning throughout the year.

We know some students found their recent exam results disappointing but we feel they need to understand the extent of knowledge required by this time next year. To help, we have purchased access to some excellent revision sites that will assist in their progress. These sites should be accessed at home to reinforce the learning in class. Please feel free to explore the following sites.

- www.samlearning.co.uk and www.GCSEpod.co.uk

With all of this in mind, I would like to thank you in advance for your continued support. For many students, there will be times when they will find it tough as different departments will be requiring their time and they will have to try and manage this. Through continued support at Prospect School and your support and guidance at home, I am sure we will get them through the year.

Finally I am really looking forward to celebrating all their hard work and commitment to their studies in 12 months' time at the Class of 2018's end of year Prom.

Yours sincerely

Mr S. Alexander

ASPIRE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

