

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

Dear Year 11 Pupils and Parents



**RE: Autumn 2 Update and Pre-Public Examinations**

I wanted to thank parents and pupils for your brilliant attendance and engagement with the first Journey to Excellence event that we held back in October. It was great to meet so many of you. It is clear that our Year 11 pupils have amazing support at home that will give them the best opportunity for success in the coming months.

**Seneca Learning**

We introduced Seneca Learning as our platform for revision and homework with Year 11 back in October. I am incredibly proud to say that our pupils rose to the challenge making Hellesdon High School No.1 in the region for study hours over the last 3 weeks of term, clocking up an impressive 378+ hours of study time!

It was also lovely to recognise and reward our 5 top studiers for the half term, each of whom received an Amazon voucher.

**Attendance**

We have been running a year 11 attendance competition since the beginning of the Autumn Term. In our recent Journey to Excellence meeting we were very happy to draw out 5 names of pupils who have been successful in maintaining excellent attendance across the first term. Those deserving pupils are able to select either a free leavers hoody or prom ticket. The same competition has launched for this half term already and we are looking forward to rewarding more pupils before Christmas.

A final reminder that excellent attendance is the primary factor that determines success in GCSE exams. If you have any concerns or need support with your child's attendance, please contact the school as soon as possible.

**PPE (Mock Exams)**

As you will know, your child begins their PPE examinations on Monday, with the window running for the next two weeks. All pupils have received their guide to examinations and timetables, and will be able to find their seating position on the Google Classroom shortly.

Keep reminders for the PPEs:

- ✓ Pupils to be on site for 8AM to allow for a snack, drink and settling of nerves prior to their morning exams.
- ✓ Pupils to remain on site until the completion of their afternoon exams. This will generally be by 3pm, unless they are entitled to additional time. Where exam starts are delayed, pupils will need to remain on site until the exam concludes.
- ✓ Parents and pupils to check exam timetables and discuss throughout the window

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If you have any concerns about your child's ability to arrive on time, please contact the Head of House and we can discuss how we can support.

The main message to all our pupils about to take their PPEs is: *Show us your best, and we'll show you how to do it better!*

### **Vocational and Practical Assessment Days**

Following the PPEs, we will be providing your child with opportunities to complete practical, and vocational assessments, prior to the Christmas break. These will take place in the remaining weeks of the term. Full details will be issued nearer the time. These days will give pupils an opportunity to ensure that all work is completed to their potential, allowing them to focus on the next steps to success when they return in January.

Again, thank you for your ongoing support, and good luck to year 11 for the next few weeks. We believe in you.

Yours faithfully



Mr James Read  
Assistant Principal – Achievement and Progress

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