



# LEADERSHIP LINES

## Message from our Head of School, Mr Budgett

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have a busy term coming up, and a crucial one for several year groups, most notably Year 11.

### GCSE Exams:

Final Exams have started this week with Art, and the main season begins on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Year 11s will be expected to attend normal timetabled lessons when not in an exam, but additional subject-specific sessions will be provided either on the day of key exams, or the day before – where possible. For an afternoon exam, the additional session will be during Lesson 3 on the day, and then students will take their lunch during Lesson 4, prior to the exam starting at 1:00pm. The detailed timetable will be published around the school and students will be provided with their own copy.

### Deep Learning Day 3:

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May, we shall again suspend the normal timetable and each year group will engage with a whole-day event as follows:-

Year 7 – Coastal Safety Day based at Sea Palling

Year 8 – Norwich Castle and 'Industrial Revolution Norwich'

Year 9 – Working with The Army on a 'Disaster Relief' challenge

Year 10 – Careers Event – Interview skills etc

Year 11 – English and Maths – final preparations

Full details relating to each year group will be published by the event leaders.

### Transition to Key Stage 4 - Guided Pathways:

The next stages of the process to match Year 8 and 9 students to the most appropriate Key Stage 4 programme for them is well under way. We shall be requiring further input from both year groups in the coming weeks, so please watch out for communications and respond as quickly as possible, having discussed matters first!

### Uniform during the Summer Term:

Students should continue to come to school with full uniform each day. We shall make the decision on a daily basis as to whether students can adopt our 'Summer' uniform code – Ties up, shirts tucked in, but no blazers need to be worn. This allows us to maintain a good standard of uniform whilst taking account of the vagaries of the British weather!

### Other Events this term:

Please keep an eye of the calendar published on the website for updated information regarding other events this term.

### Basic Equipment for lessons:

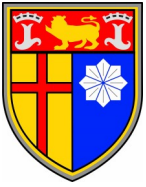
It is every student's responsibility to ensure that they come to school not only dressed in the correct uniform, but with the correct basic equipment for lessons. This should be:-

Planner, Black Pen(s), Pencil(s), Ruler, Rubber. For some subjects, additional equipment would be useful, such as a set of compasses and protractor for Maths/Science/DT, and possibly a calculator. Too much valuable learning time is lost while 'missing' equipment is provided for individuals. Your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated and beneficial to the success of your child.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Budgett





## Message from our Assistant Headteacher, Mr Norris; Director of Teaching and Learning

Dear Parents/Carers

### Year 11 Mock Exams & Revision

The autumn and spring terms have been busy ones with Year 11 students sitting a variety of mock exams and assessments. Teachers have begun feeding back results and will ensure that all students know their strengths and areas for development. Mock exams are important because they give us a clear impression as to how students perform under pressure but students should remember that they are only one small piece of the puzzle and that there is still everything to play for in the final exams!

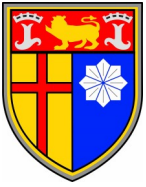
Year 11 students are engaged in morning revision sessions within their house groups and will cycle through Maths, English and Science sessions as well as a 'keeping in touch' day with their form group and revision assemblies on Wednesdays.

We are delighted with the enthusiasm that our students have shown towards GCSE Pod revision. Our latest stats show that Stalham High students are making above average use of the website for schools of our size nationally and that English Literature, Maths & Biology are the most accessed 'pods'. Students that are using GCSE Pod in their own time are to be praised as it is such a good way to organise and support private study.

We'll keep you updated as Year 11 head towards their final exams. As I write, there's just 3 weeks to go! You can do it Year 11!

Yours faithfully

**Mr P. Norris**



## Message from our Assistant Headteacher, Mr McMahon; Director of Student Support and Guidance and Trust SENCo

Dear Parents/Carers

Following our recent Good Ofsted judgement, we were keen to find out what we can do to further improve our school. Whilst we got some useful ideas from Ofsted, it is also really important to hear from our students, after all, it's their school!

To help to develop student leadership opportunities and encourage student voice, we introduced the role of Form Ambassador. As well as being a responsible and reliable role model within their Form group, Form Ambassadors attend Student Summits, which take place three times per term.

Each Summit is chaired by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. On the Wednesday of a Summit Week, an initial topic is agreed and Ambassadors return to their Form to have discussions with their peers on the Thursday. Ambassadors then attend a further Summit on the Friday to bring together all of the ideas from each Form in school to produce some highly interesting and relevant discussion. So far, students have worked on topics which include teaching and learning principles, the school's approach to combatting bullying, next year's student planner size and most recently, the effectiveness of Form time.

It is a really insightful and beneficial experience to allow the students to speak their mind about topics which are often close to their hearts. What never fails to amaze me is just how proud our students are of their school and how determined they are to continue to make it even better!

Yours faithfully

**Mr L McMahon**