

STRATTON UPPER SCHOOL

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RHW/KW

19th October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

YEAR 11 EXAM PREPARATION

Our Year 11 students face a very different challenge to recent year groups as, following GCSE reforms, the vast majority of courses will almost exclusively rely on the June exams with only a few having the benefit of controlled assessment or course work.

The new exam structure favours those students who are able to work independently and organise themselves to constantly revise what they have been taught over years 10 and 11. Maths and English are the cornerstone of achievement but students are also judged on the breadth of their study so all subjects are vital.

To support our students we want to make the December (7th – 18th December) mock exams as successful as possible, with the aim being to use the mocks as a celebration of student learning. Our goal is that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the grades students gain will be within 1 grade of their targets (published on progress Checks). We believe this will boost the confidence of our students in the final few months of study after Christmas, so they are inspired to work consistently through the Spring term and are at the top of their educational game in June 2018.

We will need your continued help and support in the vital months ahead. Families are the biggest influence on student exam success; some studies suggest family expectations have up to 8 times the effect on exam success compared to other factors such as social class and the input of teachers. Only by working together can we ensure all students achieve the results they will need for the next stage of their education or work based training.

We would like to invite you to an information evening on Tuesday 7th November at 6.30pm to share some of our experience as to what parents can do and what good revision looks like. We hope to see as many families represented as possible.

Yours faithfully

Rob Watson
Headteacher

Alun Evans
Assistant Headteacher: Head of Key Stage 4

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