



2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

Dear Year 13 Parents/Carers

We are very impressed by the way the vast majority of Year 13 students are rising to the challenge of their final examinations and working hard on revision over their final days of school. As a group of young adults, they have overcome many challenges in Sixth Form and their maturity and resilience as a year group is highly commendable.

As students near the end of their secondary education, we wanted to send you some final information:

### **Exam Timetables**

Students were issued with their exam timetables and a copy was also emailed home to you. It is a good idea to have this displayed somewhere visible at home to ensure students know the dates and times of their exams, and so you are aware of these too. With the exam season now so close, students should be spending significant time in the evenings and at the weekend focusing on completing revision, balanced with plenty of breaks, rewards and rest. If anyone needs any final support with revision, please get in contact. Study Leave begins from the morning of Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May, but students are still very welcome to attend school to revise during study leave. Teachers will be available to one-to-one and small group support in normal Year 13 lesson slots until May half term.

### **JCQ Exam Regulations**

We attached the JCQ Exam Regulations for Students which we have also shared with students in assembly, so you can refer to them at home. While most of our students fully abide by the regulations, a small number have been caught out in recent years and grades have not been awarded as a result.

Please remind your son/daughter of the following specific rules:

- Approved equipment only can be taken into the exam hall in a clear plastic bag/pencil case
- Water bottles must be clear (not coloured), with no label
- No mobile phones or watches can be taken into the exam hall
- No air buds must be taken into the exam hall, and we are asked to regularly check students' ears on entry
- There must be no writing on hands, arms or legs, including henna
- Students must not start writing until they are told to do so and must stop writing as soon as instructed by the invigilators.

Please also note that while we can reorganize internal mock exams for students to sit at different times, these official external exams cannot be rescheduled. Students unable to attend are awarded zero marks, including if they are late for the exam. If there is an issue on the morning of any exam, please telephone us at school immediately.

### **University Firm/Insurance Choice and Student Finance deadline**

We have advised students to check their UCAS Hub/Track accounts carefully to see when they need to respond with their firm and insurance choices as this deadline varies, depending on when they have received their final offer. If students intend to go to university this Autumn, they must apply for Student Finance by 17<sup>th</sup> May to guarantee finances are in place for the start of their degree course. Resources are posted on Classcharts to support students with their finance applications.

### **Further Careers Advice**

Students are welcome to make appointments to come into school during study leave (and indeed next year) if they need further careers support and guidance. To build on work we have completed with students on living independently and financial wellbeing in school, we recommend the completion of this free online Open University Course over the summer: <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/money-business/mses-academy-money/content-section-overview?active-tab=description-tab>

### **Leavers' Day and Ball: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

We are looking forward to celebrating their Leavers' Day with Year 13. Students are invited onto the school site from 8am for pastries and tea/coffee with their form tutors in the restaurant. We then have an extended Leavers' Assembly followed by some sports activities and a lunchtime BBQ provided by the school. Students will receive their hoodies too. Students then leave after lunchtime to get ready for the Sixth Form Ball. Please see the letter emailed home recently with all the details. We have explained to students that we have a no prank policy in the run up to and on Leavers' Day itself; if anything were to happen students know they would be sent home and risk suspension, but we have every confidence students will behave respectfully and observe 'the Waddesdon Way' to the very end.

### **A level Results' Day: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

A level results will be available for collection from the school hall from 9am on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August. We are both in school to support students that day and indeed the following day, along with Miss Hay and Mrs Bridges for further careers support. Students will be invited back into school in mid-December to collect their official exam result certificates. In advance of Results' Day, we recommend students read up about UCAS Clearing to build on an assembly we delivered last week:

UCAS Clearing: <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/results-confirmation-and-clearing/what-clearing>

If any student needs further support in the coming weeks, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Thank you for all your support from home over the past two years; it has been greatly appreciated.

May we take this opportunity to wish all of Year 13 every future success. They have been a delightful year group to work with; we hope they will have fond memories of their time at Waddesdon and keep in contact with the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs McKenzie  
Head of Year 13

Ms McIver  
Head of Sixth Form