

24th January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and wish you a very happy New Year. It has certainly been an eventful start to 2019 here at Bedale High School with a recent Ofsted inspection. We will share the results of this with you shortly.

It has been an eventful two weeks and I return from paternity leave having welcomed, Stanley William Chapman into the world on 28th December, sleep deprived but determined to work with the entire staff to support your child to achieve the strongest set of GCSE results possible and make the most of the incredible potential held within our Year 11 students. It may come as no surprise that the students likely to be the most successful on 22nd August possess qualities of independence, resilience and determination.

Last half term students completed a rigorous programme of PPEs. It is now vital that your child uses the feedback from this to kick start the next stage of their revision before they sit their final set of PPEs commencing on 18th March. The summer exam timetable is attached to this letter and the PPE2 timetable will be issued shortly.

Staff have volunteered to put on a full programme of extra revision sessions (see attached timetable). Ensuring your child attends these extra sessions is a significant way of maximising chances of success. Some of our students who are in danger of not achieving their potential will be directed to attend these sessions and home contact will be made in these cases.

Our Study Hub is open every lunchtime and afterschool until 4.30pm every afternoon Monday-Thursday. This is an excellent way to get an extra hour of revision in straight after school. Why not encourage your child to attend regularly with a group of friends so they can support each other through challenging subjects rather than attempting them alone?

Mr Gill is running a console amnesty! He will be locking away consoles from March to the summer GCSEs to reduce the distraction factor for our students as they commit to their revision. Please discuss this with your child if you feel it may be of benefit. Some students may wish to be sponsored to sign up to this programme so they are able to raise money for a favourite charity. Contact Mr Gill for further details (gillm@bedalehighschool.org.uk).

We will shortly be launching the Prom Passport. This requests that students achieve specific targets in order to receive a ticket to the Prom. This includes above 95% attendance, excellent punctuality, behaviour and effort. We of course make allowances for genuine absences but will be monitoring data closely and informing students who may be in danger of not being permitted to attend so that they can improve their performance. The Year 11 Prom will be held on 27th June at Solberge Hall.

The bottom line is that it is vital that all our Year 11 students commit to a programme of sustained personal effort and engage fully with the multi-faceted support we are offering. Our hopes for our Year 11s are high but this can only be achieved by significant hard work. If we can assist with any aspect of your child's academic or pastoral performance then as always, don't hesitate to make contact.

Yours faithfully



Mr Chapman
Head of KS4