



Sandringham School

'Everybody can be Somebody'



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Letter No: 95/2022

6th January 2022

Dear Year 11 Parent/Carer,

Firstly, may we take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and hope that this letter finds you and your family well.

As we start the spring term, we wanted to provide some pertinent information and key dates to you in a single letter. At our parents/carers information evening last term we mentioned how busy the first half term was with many events taking place for both students and families.

Before the Christmas holidays your child completed their trial examinations. Teachers have worked tirelessly over the past few weeks marking and moderating these assessments. On **Monday 10th January** students will receive their results at a "results day" style event. These results will include their trial grade outcome and a predicted grade – we would ask you to discuss and celebrate these results with them. Also on this day, Miss Mouncey will give a brief introduction to post-16 pathways and application processes.

Our Year 11 Into the Sixth Form Evening then takes place on **Tuesday 11th January at 6.30pm (please aim to arrive at 6.15pm)**. This will provide an opportunity for students to learn more about the courses available in the sixth form and hear from subject teachers. We are going ahead with our open evening in person as planned. However, we recognise that we are operating in unusual circumstances. If you feel uncomfortable attending this event, or are unable to attend, all materials including the main presentation and a version of all subject talks will be made available online at 6.30pm on the same evening.

If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, please **do not attend** and we ask that anyone wishing to attend takes an LFT shortly before attending. It would also be very helpful if only **one adult** attends with each student. We will require all attendees to wear face coverings unless medically exempt. Please be aware that we will be keeping a limit on the number of people in the main presentation and in subject talks, only permitting people to sit. If all seats are taken, we will ask you to return to a later talk or to view the talk online after the event. We would like to thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation in helping us to keep things as safe as possible.



Our Year 11 Parent Teacher Consultation evening will then take place virtually on **Monday 17th January**. You will have received a separate communication about this from Miss Pitsillis. Your attendance at this event is of great significance as this will be the final formal opportunity to discuss your child's progress with subject teachers prior to the public examinations in the summer. If you need any assistance with booking appointments, please reach out to Mr Boak by emailing admin@sandringham.herts.sch.uk.

Friday 4th February marks the deadline for sixth form applications across the BSV consortium. If your child is looking at applying to another post 16 provision, such as college, we would strongly encourage that they aim to apply by this deadline too. During the spring term we will continue to provide students with post-16 and careers guidance through planned events (such as a forthcoming ELD) but also through optional guidance meetings with a careers advisor.

Looking further ahead, in accordance with DfE and Ofqual guidance, we continue to prepare students for public examinations this summer. As previously outlined, there will be some adjustments to these examinations, such as prior publication of the topics which will be assessed. In February, examination boards and bodies will release further information which will be swiftly shared with students. The window for this summer's exam series has been extended by two weeks beyond what would be the norm. This is to allow for greater spacing between papers in a single subject. Below we have noted key dates for this summer's series:

First public examination – Monday 16th May
Final public examination – Tuesday 28th June
Contingency exam day – Wednesday 29th June (students must be available on this date)

As with the trial exams, students will receive their own personal exam timetable via the Student VLE which they will need to follow throughout the public examination period. This will be issued closer to the time.

Friday 13th May will be your child's last formal day in school before going on study leave. However, it should be noted that some subjects may continue to run revision activities in the lead up to exams. We will also always provide space for your child to study in a quiet environment in school should they wish to. More information about this will follow in due course. On Friday 13th May, we will be holding a celebration assembly for the year group where there will be an opportunity to distribute yearbooks and for shirt signing to take place.

For students who have applied to study at sixth form, there is a two-day induction which students are required to attend. This will take place on **Thursday 30th June and Friday 1st July**. At the same time, we will also be hosting our book/equipment return where students will also be able to collect their Prom ticket.

We hope to be able to hold a Prom this year as another celebration of your child's time at the school. We have scheduled for this to take place on **Friday 1st July** at 7pm in the Main Hall. As we have done in previous years, we hope to be able to invite parents/carers to attend the arrival of the event to take photos and share this momentous occasion with staff at the school.

If your child is taking part in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award this year, please be advised that there has been a change of date for the qualifying expedition due to the extension of the examination period this summer. The expedition to the Peak District will now take place on **Thursday 7th July to Saturday 9th July**. Mrs Cuneen will provide further information in due course.

Finally, the published date for GCSE and vocational examination results day is on the morning of **Thursday 25 August**. We also run sixth form and post-16 options surgeries on this day.

I hope this letter is useful in outlining the final months of your child's time in Year 11. Due to the nature of the times we currently live in, all dates and events are subject to change or adjustment. Rest assured that more detailed information about each event will follow nearer the time. As we have outlined from Year 7, working in partnership with families is key to your child's success and therefore having a shared understanding of their journey is critical. As ever, should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's form tutor in the first instance via admin@sandringham.herts.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Allday
Assistant Headteacher

James Boak
Performance Director: Year 11