



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

15th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Today, your child has received their mock examination results. Some students will be delighted with their grades while others may feel a sense of disappointment. This is usual at this time of year and we traditionally see an increased focus on preparation and revision from January of Year 11. This usually results in improved grades in the next set of mocks which take place in March, then further improvement in the final summer external examinations.

To further support, we are holding a virtual Year 11 Parents Evening on Thursday 13th January between 3.30 – 7.00pm. Further information and guidance on how to book appointments with your child's teachers will be shared on Wednesday 5th January, with the booking system going live that day.

In preparation for the March mocks taking place Monday 14th - Friday 25th March, we are putting a number of support strategies in place:

- Form time intervention will offer targeted maths or English support to all students.
- P6 maths and English will be on separate days so students may attend both.
- Additional weekly targeted intervention for other key subjects

To encourage our students to actively engage in these support sessions and to maintain their motivation through until next summer, we will ensure they are suitably rewarded.

In January we will launch our Passport to Prom. Students will be awarded points every time they attend a P6 lesson. As they accumulate points, the cost of the prom ticket reduces with additional rewards at the event. Students will also be awarded points for excellent effort during their form time interventions.

We will hold a raffle for one student to win a £100 voucher to spend on their prom outfit. The twenty students with the highest P6 attendance will be entered into this.

Every fortnight, an additional raffle will see a student win a £25 voucher of their choice. To be entered into the raffle, students will need to attend three P6 lessons a week and participate fully in the support provided there.

Whilst we want our students to take their studies seriously and to prepare well for their examinations, we are very mindful that our Year 11 students have experienced significant disruption to their learning over the last two years. We hope that these support and reward strategies will help to alleviate any anxiety your child may be feeling about examinations.

We also continue to provide in school support via our Year 11 Team. Students can see Mrs Smith or Mr Loxton in the Year 11 office whilst Miss Gaines, Mrs Howes and Mr Dewhirst are on hand in our Raising Achievement Centre to offer academic guidance. Specialist SEND support is provided by Mrs Ellison and if you have any queries about access arrangements for examinations then Mrs Ellison is available to help with this.



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With regards to next summer's examinations, we are closely following advice from the Department for Education. I feel I should forewarn you and our students that any summer examination disruptions due to Covid may make it necessary for us to use mock examination data to inform our grading process.

Dr Jo Saxton is the Chief Regulator for Ofqual which is the examination regulatory body. Dr Saxton has written a letter to all students explaining how they are being supported and I have attached a copy of her letter for your information.

As always, we really appreciate all the support that you provide at home and we recognise that we are all working towards the same goal - success for your child, our student. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the Year 11 team if you have questions or concerns about your child's mock examination results, the external examinations next summer or any other matter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'BJ', written over a faint horizontal line.

Mr Ben Jones

Assistant Principal - Key Stage 4