



# Biddenham

International School & Sports College

Headteacher: Mr David Bailey Deputy Headteacher: Ms Eleanor Grylls

January 2019

Dear Parents,

Please find enclosed a copy of your child's latest report that I hope you will find useful. It has been planned to coincide with the Year 11 Parents' Evening coming up on **Thursday 7th February**.

The negotiated target grade is set by the teacher and agreed with your child. The current grade in your child's report indicates how they have performed in regular half-termly assessments, marked against set criteria and this time also includes information about how they performed in the recent practice exams.

Each assessment grade builds on the next in order to give a realistic picture of the progress that your child is making. The 'on track towards' grade is an indication of the grade that your child is likely to achieve at the end of Year 11 based on their current grade. This grade assumes a regular rate of progress in Year 11, but is **not a prediction** of the final result as it does not take into account effort and attitude to learning. If the effort and work ethic is high this can make all the difference in your child achieving or exceeding their target grade. It is never too late to make improvements!

Further details about the reformed GCSE grading system can be found in the leaflet enclosed.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you about some of the key dates between now and the summer.

<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019</b>	MOCK Results day
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019</b>	Year 11 Parents Evening
<b>Monday 11th February - Friday 15th February 2019</b>	Targeted Revision Sessions
<b>Monday 11th March - Friday 15th March 2019</b>	Practice exams for English, Maths and RS
<b>Monday 8th April - Thursday 18th April 2019</b>	Targeted Revision Sessions
<b>Monday 23rd April to Friday 26th March 2019</b>	Practice exams for Science
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019</b>	Practice exams for Science & Religious Studies
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	Main GCSE Exams begin
<b>Thursday 23<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	Year 11 Last Day
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	Year 11 Study Leave Begins

Alongside the exam focus, I would like to update you on the support we are providing for Year 11 in relation to their post exam options. Last week we had a visitor from the National Apprenticeship Service speak to the year group and lead a break-out session, which highlighted one of the core alternatives for students to consider. Furthermore, we have had the Head of Sixth Form, Mr Brown lead assemblies on the application process for Biddenham's Sixth Form.

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Students will also have the opportunity to attend a University and Apprenticeship fair in March. Finally, students have had the opportunity to attend Leicester University where they took part in a series of workshops centred on university life. I would strongly encourage you to discuss the post 16 options available to your child once they have completed their exams in the Summer. Most post 16 providers will require applications to be completed in advance of the beginning of courses.

Please also remember the role that home can play in supporting your child's learning. They will need somewhere to revise and study which enables them to focus. All students will have created a revision timetable so please discuss this with them and support them in keeping to this structure. It is never too early to start revising! We have a range of resources on our website which will help you support your child's learning and contains a range of 'top tips', specific revision resources and exam support materials under the Key Stage 4 Curriculum link. (<https://www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk/ks4/>) There are also several online programmes which your child can access including MyMaths, Kerboodle and Seneca Learning. There are also a host of revision sessions which take place most days after school (again, refer to the school website for details) and there will be additional revision opportunities over February half term and Easter. Finally, does your child have a revision guide for all subjects? These are available at the schools reception at cost prices.

We are extremely happy with the progress the majority of our students have made in Year 11. Should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact either your son/daughter's tutor or me as Head of Year on 01234 334560.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Evans', with a horizontal line underneath.

MR E EVANS  
Head of Year 11