



29 November 2021

Dear parent/guardian/carer

## Upcoming Year 9 Assessments & GCSE Options

Year 9 students are due to undertake their mid-year assessments during the period of **3 January - 14 January 2022**. These assessments are significant in forming the basis of **mid-year setting refinements**, our **GCSE options** process, and for providing **vital diagnostic feedback** to our subject teams.

These assessments will be undertaken in the classroom environment during their normal timetabled lessons.

Students are best able to prepare for their assessments by using the materials provided in their knowledge organiser booklets, and through the use of our new Brainscape tool. Our Year 9 students are now well versed in a range of revision strategies, with particular highlight on self-quizzing effectively in order to improve their long-term memory.

The tracking point associated with this assessment period is collected by our teachers on the week commencing 31 January 2022. Collected ATL scores and calculated 100 scores from this tracking point will form the basis of tie-break in any oversubscribed GCSE options.

I will be writing to you in the new year outlining the full suite of information and arrangements for our GCSE options process, however dates for your diary are **Thursday 17 February 2022** for the Year 9 parent evening (virtual), and **Thursday 10 March 2022** for the GCSE Options evening (currently planned to be in-person).

Looking toward the end of the academic year, our end of Year 9 assessments are scheduled to take place between **6 June – 17 June 2022**. These assessments will form the basis for setting adjustments to take place at the beginning of Year 10.

Yours sincerely

**Mr K Lean**  
Assistant Headteacher