



THE  
**GARIBALDI**  
SCHOOL

16<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

It is hard to believe that we are already over half way through the first year of Key stage 5. We understand that the transition from Key Stage 4 is never easy and that students do not always fully appreciate how big the jump from GCSE study to A Level and Level 3 study is.

With this in mind, I am writing to inform you that we are now entering a crucial stage in Year 12. Previously, Year 12 students would be preparing for their AS exams in their A Level subjects. There have been numerous government changes with regards to education policy and various A Level reforms have been made. As a school we will no longer be sitting AS level exams due to the fact that they do not contribute towards the final A Level grade and therefore have no impact with regards to university offers. However, it is worth noting that some students who are studying alternative Level 3 qualifications will have sat and will be sitting exams and submitting work that will contribute towards their final grade.

As a Sixth Form the AS exams were always used to assess suitability and progression onto Year 13. With these no longer being completed by our A Level students, progression onto Year 13 will be based on results from the Year 12 mock exams that will be sat w/c 25 June 2018 and w/c 2 July 2018. It is, therefore, vitally important that students prepare fully for these exams. A session on revision skills has already been delivered to the students and we would encourage all students to take advantage of the extra support available in their individual subjects. I cannot stress enough the importance of these exams as they will be a key factor in determining continuation into Year 13.

When decisions are being made with regards to continuation of study, performance in any external modules will also be considered along with the student's attitude to learning and attendance. As a school we would expect Key Stage 5 students to maintain an attendance of at least 95% and an average Attitude To Learning score of better than 2 as these are essential elements if students are to achieve well.

As we move towards the summer term, various events will be taking place to ensure that our students are prepared and able to make informed decisions with regards to their future. Students will have the opportunity to attend the 2018 UCAS Exhibition on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 which will allow students to explore a wide range of academic and career opportunities. The school will also host a Futures Day event on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Additionally, students are expected to secure a work experience placement to undertake w/c 16 July 2018 to complement their academic achievements.

We thank you for your ongoing support and if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form directly.

Yours faithfully

*S Chapman*

Mr S Chapman  
Assistant Head Teacher

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