

December 2017

Dear Parent/ Carer

You will shortly receive your child's Tracker 2 ahead of Parents' Evening on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. As we outlined in September, following this Tracker students will be able to select home study periods if their attitude to learning is positive, defined as an average Attitude to Learning score of 2 or higher and without any Attitude to Learning grades of 1 (or below).

By working in school during study periods, lots of students have developed excellent study habits that will help them to succeed in their A Levels. We therefore want to increase students' independence by giving this opportunity for students to manage their own study time off site.

All students will still be expected to be on site studying on Monday mornings; Monday registration is compulsory and students should use periods 1 and 2, if not in lessons, to continue developing their learning habits. At other times, students will be able to opt for home study, but we welcome and encourage students to continue to study in school whenever they wish to do so. Attendance at registration is also compulsory when students have lessons periods 1 – 3.

If there are any future concerns about progress, Attitude to Learning or attendance (to lessons, compulsory registrations, Monday morning sessions, Tutorials), home study privileges may be revoked and students will be monitored whilst working in school full time again.

With this increased freedom it is essential that all students sign in and out at Student Reception if they are leaving after morning lessons or arriving on site any time after registration in the morning. Students must also wear their lanyards at all times. This is an important safeguarding measure to identify Sixth Form students in and around school. We are currently working towards installing an electronic signing in and out system, which students will use with linked identity cards – I will write to you again with more information once this is established.

Students with Attitude to Learning that is currently causing a concern (i.e. any Attitude to Learning grades of 1 or lower) will not be eligible for home study and instead will be supervised more closely in school whilst they continue to develop the working habits that foster success. If your child is in this situation, they will meet with a member of the Sixth Form team to agree an action plan of how they can progress further. Your child's Attitude to Learning and home study privileges will be reviewed at Tracker 3.

I would also like to clarify the process of transition from Year 12 to Year 13. Students will sit mock examinations in all subjects in early May, with resit sessions for students who do not achieve A-E grades or who attain significantly below their target grade in a mock examination. If there are still concerns about a student's capability to succeed on a course, we will provide guidance about the more appropriate courses and offer a different programme of study to start in September 2018. We will also review other aspects of students' performance and engagement across the year, including attendance and other engagement indicators such as attitude to learning and behaviour, and there may be circumstances where we conclude that continuation with A Levels at High Storrs is not appropriate. We anticipate that this will only be the case for a very small minority of students. All of this information will be communicated to you before the Summer and I will write again with information about mock examination week in the Spring Term.

Yours sincerely

Miss L Mason  
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form