

J/SLT/MK/Lets/Pupil/2016/Yr9

23rd April 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Year 9 End of Year Exams

You may be aware that your child will be sitting the new GCSEs when they are in Year 11. This will mean that they will leave Hollingworth with new grades from 1 to 9, with 9 being the highest. The Government has also made it clear that these new qualifications will be more demanding. Full details of the new grading system can be found on our website under the following link:

Parents : Curriculum Statement : Curriculum Update

Another aspect of the new exam system will be the removal of most controlled assessment/coursework, which will be replaced by additional exams at the end of Year 11. In order to prepare pupils for this, we will be holding 'End of Year' exams for English on Monday 8th May 2017 and Maths on Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th May 2017.

To support pupils in the preparation for these exams, all Year 9 pupils will have an Enrichment morning on Thursday 27th April, looking at general revision and preparation techniques. In the run up to the exams, Maths and English teachers will also be holding revision sessions in lessons, but we would encourage pupils to begin revising little and often at home in the coming weeks. In order to support pupils staff have provided them with some revision materials.

English:

In English, all the revision resources for the Reading and Writing exams have been uploaded onto the VLE. Teachers will go through these with pupils in lessons. Go to:

<http://vle.hollingworthacademy.co.uk/english/ks3-revision>

Maths:

Pupils can use an excellent online resource called MathsWatch and resources in their books such as:

- Pre and Post-tests
- Homework sheets
- Practice Paper
- Resources on the VLE



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We are conscious that this may be the first major exam pupils have sat formally at Hollingworth. Therefore, in order to provide some additional support and allow pupils more time to focus on preparing for these exams, we will suspend homework for the year group from the week beginning 1st May 2017 until after the exams.

It is hoped that by doing this pupils will be better prepared, and supported, for sitting the new GCSEs.

As always, many thanks for your continued support. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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Yours sincerely



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