

22 September 2020

**RE: Key Stage 4 – Year 11 Attendance**

Dear Parents/Carers,

As students have now settled into their final year at Hungerhill School, we would like to share some important information about attendance in Year 11. Firstly, we are very pleased at how positively students have reintegrated into school and began working to bridge the gaps left by the interruptions to our 2019/2020 academic year. We have high hopes for the year group and we look forward to seeing them develop and progress over the course of this year.

We understand that current guidance around Covid-19 can make decisions on whether students are fit to attend school difficult. We are working with the most up to date guidance from the DfE and will continue to post information on the school website. Parents can access this information at any time to ensure that students are only absent from school when absolutely necessary.

Statistically those students that attend well are more likely to achieve, with research suggesting that students missing 17 school days a year experience one level or GCSE grade drop in achievement. Achieving a score of 90% on a test, exam, or survey would normally be something to be celebrated, however, when we consider that 90% attendance equates to four whole school weeks missed in the year and 112 hours of missed learning time, it's easy to see why poor attendance can have such an impact on students' overall outcomes. We expect all students to strive for 100% attendance and give themselves the very best chance of achieving their full potential.

We appreciate that through no fault of their own, some students may have to self-isolate, therefore we have taken the decision to adjust our Year 11 awards system to incorporate recognition for attendance on a daily and weekly basis. We will be introducing the following incentives in addition to our existing rewards:

- Weekly 100% attendance draw – one student from each Year 11 form will win £5
- Highest form attendance reward – whole form to receive a celebratory treat
- Daily attendance raffle – prizes to include tickets to 'Hot Chocolate Fridays'

In addition, plans are underway for this year's Prom event that will hopefully take place in the Summer term. As with previous events, students' attendance, AtL and behaviour/achievements will all form part of a set criteria for students being eligible to attend celebratory events, including the Prom.

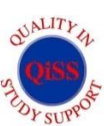
Finally, in the event that the scheduled summer GCSE exam programme cannot go ahead due to COVID restrictions, we need to ensure that students attend school regularly and complete all relevant assessments. This includes the upcoming mock exams (w/c 9th November). The school may



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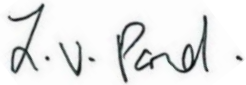
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be asked to form judgements on your child's attainment, based on mock examinations and assessments, with this information likely to be requested by exam boards to evidence students' ability.

Should you have any questions or queries about any of the above please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Z. V. Pand." with a period at the end. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Interim Headteacher