

# Richard Hale School

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Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

I am writing to provide you with information about the Year 12 examinations as well as some other key events which will affect students in the coming months.

## Year 12 Examinations

As you are already aware, the Year 12 internal examinations will take place during the week commencing **9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**. I have attached the examinations timetable to this letter. Students will receive their own personalised copy of the timetable with rooms and seats indicated in the next couple of weeks.

This exam week will provide Year 12 students with a realistic experience, which will be all the more important following the cancellation of last summer's GCSE examinations for this year group. We will hold a formal mock examination week for students in January 2023, as well as Year 13 mid-terms in October 2022, to provide further practice.

The purpose of the Year 12 examinations is to provide teaching staff with a robust set of performance data with which to assess each individual student's progress in their subjects. Not only will this provide an opportunity for our Year 12 students to find out how they are getting on under examination conditions, it will also inform the predicted grades used in the UCAS and Apprenticeship application process.

Year 12 A Level students will be on study leave during this examination week and need only attend school when they have an exam. Year 12 BTEC students will be required to attend lessons as normal during the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022. Students who are studying for an A Level alongside their BTEC course must attend school in order to take the exam in their A Level subject, as well as any BTEC lessons during that week. These students may take the morning before an afternoon exam as study leave ie miss any BTEC lessons on the morning to undertake revision when they have an exam in the afternoon.

Students must thumb in when they arrive in school and thumb out when they leave the school site. The Sixth Form dress code must be adhered to when taking exams; this includes wearing a lanyard with ID badge. This is a requirement for external exams and is good practice for students to observe at this stage in Year 12.

In order to support you in preparing students for these examinations at home, please find the attached document containing guidance and top tips for parents. I hope that you will find this information useful.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the support which is available in school. On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March, students will undertake a two hour Study Support Programme delivered by an external provider, Learning Performance. This group has already provided a valuable programme to students in the current Year 11 and Year 13 to support their exam preparation. In addition to this, as

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well as the support and guidance from subject teachers and form tutors, we are also fortunate to have two dedicated Sixth Form Study Support Officers. Mrs Dixon and Ms Yunus are available in our Study Centre and can provide the help, support and guidance that students may need as they prepare for their Year 12 exams. Students are welcome to undertake their revision in school during their Year 12 exam week. The Study Rooms will be available for them as usual.

### **Post 18 Pathways**

This week we have continued our 'Post-18 Pathways Programme' for Year 12 students, with an assembly on the UCAS process. This provides an alternative pathway to the apprenticeship route focussed on in February. On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May we look forward to welcoming students, parents and carers into school to our 'Post-18 Pathways Evening' at which we will provide comprehensive guidance on the range of post-18 opportunities available, the university application process and much more, to aid students with these important decisions about their next steps. More guidance and information will follow in due course.

### **Senior Student Applications Process**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March I launched our '2022 Senior Student' application process. Senior Student post holders play an influential role in the running of the school whether it be as Head Boy or Girl, House Captain or a Senior Prefect. The closing date for receipt of these applications is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 9.00. I, along with members of the Senior Leadership Team, are very much looking forward to reading those applications and shortlisting for interviews after the Easter break.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Dr S Coote  
Head of Year 12