



Headteacher: NJ Willis

Email: head.4140@wallingfordschool.com

St George's Road, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8HH

Telephone: 01491 837 115 Fax: 01491 825 278

Email: office.4140@wallingfordschool.com

Web: www.wallingfordschool.com

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Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to let you know that we will, once again, be conducting some more formal exams for students in years 7, 8 and 9, in January 2016.

The exams in January are interim exams in English, Maths and Science only. In June 2016, there will be exams in English, Maths, Science, Languages, History and Geography.

Depending on the year group and subject, these exams will be between 45 and 90 minutes long (sometimes in two separate papers). We will send you a report with the percentage marks gained by your child in these exams, along with the average and 10th percentile marks for the year group.

The purpose of these exams continues to be twofold. Firstly, it is to facilitate accurate assessment of student progress and attainment in order to inform parents, students and teachers. Secondly, it is to help prepare students for exams further up the school.

It is important to note that, whilst we expect students to take the exams seriously and want them to spend some time revising (one of the key benefits will be that they allow students to practise the skill of revision), we do not want them to cause any unnecessary stress for students or families. The exams are for our own internal purposes only and have no bearing on future performance in public examinations. This is particularly true of the interim exams in January, which are primarily intended as a check on current progress and a means of identifying areas for students to work on in the remainder of the year.

Details about the content and format of these exams will be issued by class teachers and will also be available on Show My Homework, along with revision materials. Students will be undertaking revision in lessons in preparation for these exams.

Please find the exam timetable on the other side of this letter. Most exams will take place in lessons, though a few will be in the Hall in order to give students some experience of sitting exams in this environment.

- Year 9 - week beginning 4th January 2016
- Year 7 - week beginning 11th January 2016
- Year 8 - week beginning 18th January 2016

If you have any questions about this, or any other related issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Lewis
Assistant Headteacher

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