

The Marches School
part of the Marches Academy Trust
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Reference: SLW/FP

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome letter and key information letter - Exam Class 2021

Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself and to welcome you and your child to another year at The Marches School. Year 10 is an important year in your child's school life and I feel truly fortunate to be Head of Academic Progress and hope our journey together will be one that reaps great academic success for your child.

Year 10 will fully start all their GCSE courses, including core subjects and options this year, and as part of ensuring that we are ready, I have listed below important dates and key information to support you and your child this academic year.

Important dates for your calendar:

16 th September	Work Experience Launch
24 th September	Work Experience Guest Speaker
26 th September	Parent Event (more information to follow)
w/c 14 th October	English Literature Mock exam 1
23 rd January	Parents' Evening
w/c 9 th March	English Literature Mock exam 2
13 th May	Real GCSE English Literature paper 1 exam
21 st May	Real GCSE English Literature paper 2 exam
w/c 8 th June	Mock exams all subjects (2 weeks)
w/c 29 th June	Work experience (1 week)

Work Experience Information

Work experience is essential for ensuring Year 10 students understand how their skills and hard work in school translate to the real world of work. On 16th September 2019, there will be a Work Experience Launch for Year 10 students to get the ball rolling for the 29th June 2020 and I look forward to meeting you there.

GCSE English Literature Course (early entry)

Year 10 will have an early entry for their GCSE English Literature course, and as a result your child will sit the full English Literature GCSE exam in the summer of 2020. In addition to the normal Year 10 English course, students will be further supported by the English Department and our wider staff as they prepare for this exam. More information can be obtained from your child's English teacher.



Uniform and mobile phone expectations

As ever, we continue to have extremely high expectations in terms of uniform and behaviour and ask for your support in this. Your child was given a new planner, and I ask that you take time to read through the expectations in its first few pages, and please sign the Home/School agreement. Your child's tutor will be checking both their uniform and equipment regularly to ensure students are thoroughly prepared to take an active role in lessons.

Whilst phones are permitted to be brought into school, responsibility for it rests with the student and the school will take no financial responsibility for loss or damage. Phones are not to be visible at any time between the hours of 8.30am and 3.00pm, unless a member of staff allows this in lesson. Phones should be kept in the students' bag and turned off. If the student's phone is visible (this includes being seen in pockets) then the phone will be confiscated. The phone can be collected by a parent on that day before 4pm or the student may come with a note from home on the next working day to collect their phone at 3.00pm. Full details of this can also be found in your child's planner.

And finally, as Head of Academic Progress for Year 10, I feel confident that the Year Group as a whole have worked hard through Key Stage 3 (Year 7, 8 and 9) and are well positioned to achieve success through the next two years to their GCSEs. An absolute key to this success will be a healthy and positive working relationship between myself and home. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, or any questions about the matters raised in this letter, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Your child's academic achievement and growth as a young adult is at the heart of our work.

Yours sincerely,

Mr F Pietersen
Head of Academic Progress, Year 10