

The Marches School
part of the Marches Academy Trust
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Headteacher: Alison Pearson BSc, MA, NPQH

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Reference: SLW/DMP

Dear Parent / Carer,

Exam Class of 2020 - We made it to the start of Year 11!

Can I take this opportunity to welcome you to another exciting, busy and now, more than ever, important year at The Marches School. This year your child will sit the vast majority of their GCSE exams and all of their hard work over their years with us will culminate in the set of results that they take away with them. For some students, this will be their last year before their lives progress to Apprenticeships and college placements away from The Marches – however for many, I hope this year will set them up perfectly to continue their studies in our Sixth Form.

Expect your child to be busy this year preparing and revising for exams. Throughout the year, we will follow a programme of carefully planned activities to coach students in the skills and tools they will need to be successful.

Alongside the sharp focus of the academic side of the school, this year students should continue to be as involved as possible in the wider life of the school, be that sporting, performing arts, Duke of Edinburgh's Award or other trips.

As ever, we continue to have extremely high expectations in terms of uniform and behaviour and ask for your support in this too. As a school, we have made some changes to our expectations of uniform and I have spent time at the end of Year 10 explaining these changes to students and again, your support here is valued.

Your child will now have a new planner. Please take time to read through the expectations at the front and sign the Home/School agreement this week. Your child's tutor will be checking both their uniform and equipment daily, to ensure students are thoroughly prepared to take an active role in lessons.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of our phone policy for students. 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 expressly ask the student(s) to get their phone out to use in a lesson. Phones should be kept in the students' bag and turned off. If the students' phone is visible (this includes being in pockets) then the phone will be confiscated. The phone can be collected by a parent on that day before 4.00pm 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.



I am really excited to be taking the students into this final phase of their compulsory education and look forward to sharing more with you and working together for the best outcomes for the young adults in my care.

Please find below some of the most important dates this year, however, this is not an exhaustive list. As more events and opportunities arise during the year, the school, as always, will be in touch.

Key Dates

11th May – 26th June - GCSE Exam Period - DO NOT BOOK A HOLIDAY AT THIS TIME!

Two weeks commencing 4th November - Mock Exam period 1

12th December – Parents' Evening 1 and Mock Results Day

17th October – Sixth Form Open Evening

16th January- Resilience Day for Students and Resilience Evening for Parents- Karim!

Two weeks commencing 24th February - Mock Exam period 2

Two weeks commencing 23rd March - MFL Oral Exams

26th March – Parents' Evening 2

Week Commencing 24th April - Art Exam

Yours sincerely,

Dan Pritchard
Head of Academic Progress Year 11
The Marches School