



14 September 2023
Secondary - Year 11

Penshurst Primary School

Winthorpe Road, First Lane,
Hessle, East Yorkshire HU13 9EX
Tel: 01482 648808
Email: ppsoffice@hessleacademy.com

**Hessle High School
& Sixth Form College**

Tranby House, Heads Lane,
Hessle, East Yorkshire HU13 0JQ
Tel: 01482 648604
Email: hhsoffice@hessleacademy.com
Website: www.thehessleacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent

The final year of compulsory education is arguably the most important in the school life of any student and it is no exception for our current Year 11. Over the next twelve months, they will encounter numerous moments where their decision-making will have big consequences for their adult lives. They will have exams to prepare for, and sit, and decisions to be made about where they wish to study or train Post-16, including interviews for those wishing to continue into Hessle Sixth Form. We can reassure you, and them, that they will not be doing this on their own. My team of highly experienced and dedicated staff will be there every step of the way and this letter sets out briefly what that support will look like, as well as an invitation to attend an Information Evening to find out even more.

Firstly, students are now into their second week of studying. There will only be another 32 weeks before they sit their first formal examination next summer. To help them manage this time, we will regular share a summary of what is coming next. The first of these, 'Hitting the Ground Sprinting' is attached [here](#)

You will see that Mock Exams will be held either side of half term. This schedule allows us to identify early those students that need additional support, and it also gives students an early opportunity to practice their study skills. The mock interview timetables will be added to the Arbor Parent Portal soon. Please activate your account if you haven't already done so.

Secondly, students can already benefit from after-school revision sessions. These have been scheduled to give students the best chance of attending the sessions they want and we urge parents to encourage students to begin these sessions as early as possible. All the science around memory and learning points to the benefits of retrieval practice to ensure that learning 'sticks'. We hope to see all Year 11s engage with these sessions in the coming weeks and a timetable will be shared with your child during their tutor session and be available for you to collect after the Information Evening on Wednesday.

Finally, attendance to school is vital. We know that students with attendance above 96% achieve an average of a grade more than those with attendance below 90%. The difference between these (6%) is only five days of absence across a term. Please ensure that your child attends school every day on time throughout the whole of Year 11 – this will make a huge difference.



As promised, I would like to invite you to find out much more about our Success Team plan for our Year 11s at an Information Evening on Wednesday 20 September. This will begin at 4.45pm with registration, refreshments and the opportunity to review careers and revision material, before a talk from senior leaders at 5pm. After 5.30pm, there will then be a further opportunity to talk to senior and pastoral staff.

Our Year 11 Progress Evening will take place on 30 November 2023.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V Groak', written in a cursive style.

Mr V Groak
Headteacher