

RMCG/KRE

19<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

As you'll be aware we are approaching the Mock Exam period for all years. This week and next are revision weeks for students to help them prepare for their exams across all subjects. You will also be aware that we have had some absence in our Science department. It is very important to me that all students have consistent preparation for the assessments therefore we decided to organise a series of exam walkthroughs for all classes in Science to ensure all students have similar preparation for the tests. This means that I can be sure as the Principal that every student has had access to good quality provision and preparation.

The exam walkthrough process is a large lecture style session where classes are collapsed together and go through an exam paper to look at what knowledge is required. They are led by a Science specialist and supported by a range of staff. This approach is used frequently in Year 11 and we often teach whole year groups together in the Theatre to ensure effective revision. For Key Stage 3 classes we collapse to group sizes of around 60 students, they are taught in large spaces able to accommodate this number.

I wanted to run a day of the sessions on Monday to see how they worked for students and they were incredibly successful, and students gained a lot from it. The sessions will run whilst we go through the examination period.

In terms of preparation for next year, I am delighted to inform all parents that the academy is oversubscribed in Year 7 next year. The number of students in the academy will increase by over 100. This has allowed the academy to recruit a number of new teachers for next year, growing our staff significantly. We will have new appointments in Maths, English, Science, Art, Modern Foreign Languages, RE, History and Geography.

If you have any concerns about the Science walkthroughs, please contact me and I will be happy to talk to parents about the strategy.

Yours sincerely

Richard McGuire  
Principal