



**John Dowler B.Sc. Hons, NPQH**  
**Headteacher**

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Dear Parent/Carer Year 12 students

I would like to thank those of you who were able to attend our pastoral parents evening yesterday, and I hope that you found it a useful event.

I wanted to take this opportunity to clarify a number of queries which arose during the evening, particularly for those parents who were unable to attend:

### **BTEC (and A-level Media Studies) predicted grades**

These are still in the process of being finalised and we will advise students as soon as we have the predicted grades

### **A-level chances graphs**

These graphs are based on the performance of students nationally, with the same average GCSE points score as your son/daughter. The graphs indicate the probability of each grade being achieved, however it is important to note that these graphs reflect what has happened in the past and how well students do in the future, of course depends on their work and effort during KS5.

### **Predicted grades**

The A-level predicted grades are also based on prior student performance nationally, according to average GCSE points score. These predicted grades are neither a guarantee nor a limit on potential. The majority of Helsby 6<sup>th</sup> Form students exceeded their predicted grades in at least one subject last year, and many students exceeded their predicted grades in all 3 subjects.

### **UCAS applications**

The predicted grades **are not** given to universities/apprenticeship providers. The predicted grades used in higher education applications are based on teachers' professional judgment, based on the progress made in their subject by your son/daughter up to the autumn term of Year 13.

### **Student target grades**

In very many instances, it is appropriate for students and staff to set 'targets' which are higher than their predicted grade. Now that they have had a chance to settle in to their new courses, students will be discussing their aspirational targets with their form tutors, to set themselves challenging but realistic targets for their A-levels.





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### **Work experience**

We encourage all students to organise work experience during their time in 6<sup>th</sup> Form. If students need help to find an appropriate placement, then they should seek advice from me, Mrs Robinson or our careers adviser in school, Mrs Schofield. If a placement is going to require a student to be absent from lessons for a short period, then please contact me at school to discuss this.

If you have any other queries arising from the parents evening, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Duffell', written over a horizontal line.

**I Duffell (Mr)**  
Director of 6<sup>th</sup> Form

