To Parents/ Carers of Year 11 Pupils

15 October, 2013

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 11 GCSE Early Entries

As you may be aware, secondary schools have been writing to parents/carers to clarify their position following the changes to GCSE entries announced by the Department for Education on 29 September 2013. We believe that it is important to enter students for their GCSE at a time when they can gain their best possible grade in the subject i.e. when it is best for the student. The only subject where early entries have been planned is Mathematics.

Maths premier, set and set 1 students are working towards two GCSEs in the Edexcel Mathematics 'linked pair’ GCSEs; Applications of Mathematics and Methods in Mathematics. They will continue to be entered for the Applications of Mathematics GCSE which will be sat on the mornings of 6 and 8 November.

All other students (i.e. those not taking the 'linked pair') will be entered for the Edexcel Mathematics A GCSE ('linear single GCSE’) exam when they have demonstrated that they are best placed to achieve their potential.

We will base a judgement on how prepared students are using their Summer 2013 assessments, current performance based on practice exam questions, completion of homework and attendance at revision classes. If these indicate that a student is able to demonstrate they can achieve their full potential, a recommendation will be made from their teacher that they should be entered for the exam on the mornings of 6 and 8 November.

If their current work indicates that they would not do themselves full justice by taking the exams in November and would benefit from more time and preparation, they will continue to work towards a GCSE in June 2014.

Students and parents/carers will be advised by letter about these recommendations for entry for GCSE Linear Mathematics.

Whether your son or daughter is entered in June or November, we thank you for your support for them at this important time, and we hope the information we are providing about Mathematics GCSEs will be helpful to you as a parent or carer.

Yours sincerely

J Dowler
Headteacher