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1701

THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

Love as Brethren

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA (Hons), PGDip, NPQH, NPQEL

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: info@cooperscoborn.org.uk | Website: www.cooperscoborn.org.uk |

Tuesday 21st November 2023

Re: Year 13 Study Update

Dear Parents(s)/Carer(s)

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. With the second half term of Autumn underway, I would like to take a moment to commend our Year 13 students. Feedback from teachers, heads of departments and the sixth form pastoral team, highlight that a huge majority of the students have started Year 13 with an increased determination and focus to achieve this summer. We hope that this will continue to develop and ultimately open doors in the fields of University, Apprenticeships or employment with the best A-Level grades they can achieve.

As we progress further through the academic year, our students will be delving deeper into their subjects, culminating in larger assessments. At Coopers, we recognise the individual differences and demands of each subject, so assessments will look different in each subject based on the curriculum planning and mapping of our subject specialist teams. At this stage you may have seen some 'Progress Checks' taking place with percentage scores given. These are often end of topic tests on what students have recently covered. After each assessment, feedback will be provided in class, and these sessions will be instrumental in facilitating improvements as part of Year 13's continuous learning journey throughout towards the end of this academic year. We are fully aware and conscious that this part of Year 13 can have added stress and significance, combining their studies with UCAS and Apprenticeships applications. Mr Bell and Mr Teece wrote home last week with a detailed update on the 'Beyond 18' process and next steps. Although this process is on-going, students primary focus day to day should be on achieving the best possible outcomes that they can. With this in mind, all preparation, revision and dedication should be focused on excellent outcomes in the Year 13 Mocks which begin on **Monday 15th January**. From the results analysis, additional layers of intervention and support will be put in place for the final push towards the exam season.

This week we have asked staff to input data on how well Year 13 students have worked this term and to identify if there are any causes for concerns; whether that be linked to attainment (low scores in progress checks), homework (poor quality or incomplete), or concerns regarding attitude and focus. This will lead to analysis from the sixth form team, and follow up conversations looking at how they can be supported and what they can do to improve leading towards the upcoming Mock Exams. If there are concerns in multiple subjects the sixth form team will be in contact.

We would like to re-emphasise the importance of student's independent study outside of scheduled lessons. You may have been aware that students have increased their study periods during the school day in recent weeks to support with this. So far, students attitude generally to this have been excellent, and there is genuine pride amongst staff working at Coopers to see many motivated young adults. This is a vital component to sixth form success and please continue to support good study habits at home.

With A-Level study the basic principle of "I don't have any work to do!" unfortunately does not exist. Although you may not be able to help your son/daughter with all of the complexities in every A-Level you can still support them in ensuring they are doing the 'right things'.



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What is hugely important is that students are going back over content since the start of Year 12 as well as the new content they are continuing to learn. Below is a list of activities that they should be completing both in their studies, and at home:

Recommended Study Methods:

1. Assessment
2. Exam Practice
3. NEA
4. Specific Project Work
5. Directed Wider Reading

*Details

1. Complete whole or part of past exams from their exam board website under exam conditions in complete silence. Then go through mark scheme and exam commentaries on the websites and see where their gaps are.
2. Complete questions or planning of model answers to specific parts of their specification. Examples could be, specific past paper practice/ Preparation essay for next lesson/ Detailed essay plan for next lesson/ Mind maps and revision cards from mark schemes, or using resources to write model answers to exam questions.
3. Complete specific sections of coursework as required for the needs of specific course.
4. Specific case study work. E.g. Research of key topic/ area that needs greater independent research than can take place in lesson, or students can focus on individual research area.
5. Specific articles/ literature to enhance holistic understanding of topic (Masolit., specific magazines, Seneca)

We recommend checking the Go4Schools platform, where assessment scores and progress checks will be inputted when completed.

Should you have any concerns or queries, or anything you feel we can do to support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr. Edwards

Deputy Headteacher

Mr. Bell

Deputy Headteacher

Mr. Teece

Head of Year 13