

REF: GEH/tlb

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Year 9 Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you well, and that you have been able to enjoy the moments of sunshine Cornwall has had to offer this week. Following the half term break, Year 9 have settled back to learning well and we remain so proud of them all.

As you will appreciate, this term is an important term for Year 9: your children will be starting their GCSEs next year, and some may have questions about how lockdown may have impacted their GCSE courses. We want to assure you that we have plenty of plans to ensure all of our Year 9 students are supported through their examination years.

For now, Year 9 need to be focussing on their **Pre-Public Exams (PPEs)** to be held from **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June**. These exams will be sat in classrooms and are designed to give teachers a really clear idea of where students' gaps are. Teachers will use this information to plan lessons and interventions which will ensure all students progress.

These exams are formal examinations in *most* subjects and will assess knowledge learnt throughout Year 9 and, in some cases, learning from the end of Year 8. Teachers have been talking to students about the content of their PPE exams – students should know what units / modules are being tested and further information can be found in the links below:

### **What is expected of my child?**

- Attend school every day and focus in all lessons – it's really important that students are thinking and working hard toward their goals
- Using the NT revision strategy '**SORT**', students should be **S**ummarising their notes; **O**rganising their revision; **R**ecalling key facts and skills; and **T**esting themselves on the content. For SORT ideas and resources visit: <https://newquaytreherras.sharepoint.com/sites/O365StudentShared/SitePages/SORT-Your-Revision.aspx>
- [In this link, you will also see subject specific folders which will offer the PLCs \(Personal Learning Checklists\) for their exams.](#)

### **What are school doing to support my child through exams?**

- A staffed Study Skills room is available for Year 9 every **Thursday in Y16 from 3 – 4pm** - we encourage students to use this resource to work through their revision
- Targeted interventions – selected students will be invited to catch-up sessions. These students will be coming out of their non-opted for subjects to receive additional English and Maths. This is a real opportunity for students to ensure they feel confident with Maths and English content as they head into Year 10.
- Revision support, resources and explicit teaching in tutor time

Cont.:

**What can I do to support them?**

- Encourage your child to attend all revision or intervention sessions
- Help your child navigate the above links and support them in their revision
- Have a look through the SORT revision material to help them organise their learning in small chunks

**What if my child needs extra support?**

- Encourage your child to talk to their form tutor or Head of Year – the NT Well Being Hub has trained professionals who can offer additional support if needed
- Reassure your child that these assessments are to help them achieve their potential. Teachers need to know where those learning gaps may be in order that we can re-teach content and support them through their GCSEs.

Finally, thank you for all your support. We're excited to work with your child over this period and have absolute belief in every single one of them to succeed.

With very best wishes

Yours sincerely



**MR M SLOAN**  
**Head of Year 9**



**MS G HARRIES**  
**Deputy Headteacher:**  
**Responsible for Teaching and Learning**