



King's Norton Boys' School

HUMANI SEMPER CONTENDIMUS

Friday 5th October 2018

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well.

We are now almost five weeks in to your son's Year 11 education. He has covered around two thirds of the material on which he will be examined in the summer. Over the next few weeks we will be beginning a series of extra classes and interventions which will help your son develop his skills in readiness for his examinations. We will also be running a series of pre-public examinations at the end of November, which will provide us all with vital information on your son's progress to date.

Clearly, the pressure boys will experience over the next few weeks and months will grow. Some of this pressure will come from us, some may come from home, and for many boys, the biggest pressure they feel will be from themselves.

People react to pressure in many different ways. For some it is motivational, and helps people perform to the best of their ability, and for others it has very little effect. There are always some people, however, who have a negative reaction, and it is this category that I would like to address. We are unrelenting in our commitment to the well-being of your son, and we will remain vigilant for adverse signs of stress. We have a dedicated pastoral team who are always available to discuss issues with your son, and very often this is all that is required in order to deal with the anxieties surrounding examinations. If you experience behaviour or moods from your son at home which concern you, please do get in touch so that we can keep communication channels open and work together.

I must emphasise, however, that we will still adhere to our behaviour policy in exactly the same manner as we do lower down in the school. This means that poor behaviour may be met with detentions, isolation, fixed term exclusions or more. We want boys to be absolutely clear that examination pressure will not be accepted as an excuse for poor behaviour and defiance. We will work hard to help our boys achieve success, and we ask that you work with us in helping to ensure that they remain as positive as possible in this crucial final year at KNBS.

I am, as ever, grateful for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Butcher
Acting Headteacher