

Ref: RRB/MNR

1 December 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

Attendance at the Y11 Parents' Evening was over 72% which is excellent. Thank you to all of you who managed to make it and further thanks for the overwhelming positive comments you made about the school, the staff and the support your children are receiving.

Many staff are putting on additional sessions after school which are designed to boost confidence, subject knowledge, exam techniques and raise attainment. These sessions obviously require planning and when they are supported by student numbers staff feel that they are worth running. Sadly we have had occasions when students have been asked to stay, been reminded on the day and then they have just not turned up leaving a member of staff with a handful of students.

I am asking that when staff set additional sessions, often for 30 minutes or an hour, that you support us in getting students to attend. The sessions are not punishment or detentions, they are study support sessions designed to boost performance and thus enhance life chances.

Similarly, I have asked staff to identify those who do not maintain an appropriate work rate in lessons so that they will be required to attend catch up sessions arranged after school. These particular sessions will only apply to those not maintaining an appropriate work rate and are designed to ensure individuals catch up to the point they should have been had they maintained focus.

I fully accept that these are stressful times for Y11 students but we would be doing them a disservice if we did not continue to exhaust every avenue in supporting them in achieving their potential.

Once again, thank you for your support and encouragement.

Yours sincerely

R D I Burman  
**Headteacher**