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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we settle into Year 11, I want to share a little more about the approach we will be taking throughout this year. We know that Year 11 can feel like a big step for students and families, and our aim is to make sure every student feels supported and confident in their ability to succeed.

One principle I strongly believe in is the idea of **marginal gains**. Success does not usually come from one huge change; it comes from lots of small, positive choices made consistently. For our students, this might mean being a little better organised, spending five extra minutes revising, attempting one additional exam question, asking for help when they are unsure, or simply making the most of one more lesson. Each of these things might seem small, but when they are repeated over weeks and months, they can make a really significant difference.

You will also hear us talking to students about working in their **Growth Zone**. We want students to understand that finding something difficult is not a sign that they cannot do it. In fact, challenge is often where the most important learning takes place. Making mistakes, persevering and trying again are all part of the journey. Our goal is to help students develop the confidence and resilience to embrace challenges rather than avoid them.

Most importantly, we recognise that Year 11 is about much more than grades and examinations. We want our students to enjoy their final year, build positive relationships, develop confidence and feel proud of the progress they make. My team and I are committed to making sure every student feels **safe, supported, valued and encouraged** throughout the year. We also know that students are most successful when school and home work together. Your encouragement, conversations and support at home can make a real difference, and we very much see parents and carers as partners in helping students make the most of this final year. Our message to students is simple: **you do not need to be perfect, but you do need to keep moving forward**. Small improvements, made consistently, can lead to something remarkable.



I would like to ask for your support by going through the content of this letter with your child.

Key Contacts:

Pastoral Leader – Mr Charles (KCharles-reid@deptfordgreen.co.uk)

Head of Year – Myself, Mr Stamp (JStamp@deptfordgreen.co.uk)

Senior Leadership Team Link – Mr Callaghan (JCallaghan@deptfordgreen.co.uk)

Key dates for Year 11

Date:	Event
23 rd of September	Year 11 Information Evening. Sign up by using the link Year 11 GCSE Information Evening – Wed 23rd September 2026 at Deptford Green School (Edward Street Entrance) Evening event tickets from TicketSource
8 th of October	Year 11 Futures Fayre (Post 16) 5–7pm
2 nd of November	Round 1 PPE's begin (2 weeks)
26 th November	Careers Drop Down Day
9 th of December	Year 11 Parents Evening
By January 2027	Apply to at least 3 post-16 colleges
8 th February	Round 2 PPE's begin (2 weeks)
10 th May	GCSE actual exams begin

Attendance

Great attendance is imperative to being successful at GCSE level and beyond. As the Year 11 students begin their final year, every lesson does count. It is very important that your child attends school every day. We understand that absences due to illnesses can happen, therefore we would appreciate it if you could report any absence on our school attendance platform which is Studybugs. If you have any issues accessing the platform, please can you send me an email.

Off-Site lunch

Year 11 students will be allowed to go off-site for lunch from the 21st September. Students will be allowed to leave the school site at lunch time (12:40) but will need to return by 13:10 in time for their next lesson. Only students that have outstanding attendance, outstanding punctuality and great effort in all lessons will have the privilege to go off-site for lunch. All students will be notified in advance if they are allowed to go off-site for lunch. The register for off-site lunch will then be reviewed at the end of each half term. If you do not wish your child to go off-site at all this year, please communicate that via email or phone call to myself.

Year 11 Step Up

To support students with their learning, we will be running additional 'Step Up Sessions' during tutor time, core PE and after school. These sessions are designed to support students in key subjects in the run up to PPEs. For this half term the focus will be on English, Maths and Science and subjects with high revision and portfolio demands. These sessions will only be successful with high attendance from students and are therefore compulsory

Positive contributions to school life

I have been incredibly impressed with the start that all students have made to Year 11. Although it is early, the effort and maturity the students have shown has been excellent. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the following for their Y10 PPE achievements.

TOP 10 ATTAINMENT	TOP 10 PROGRESS
JOS T	ALEX T
NATASHA O	TRYPHAENA K
ALEX T	THOMAS R
VINCENT L	AMON H
AMON H	NADIA M
ANNA N	JULIETH C
MARTHA H	IONUT-FLORINEL T
OCHIA T	WILLIAM V
GRACE N	ANGEL P
TOSIN A	MAURICE H

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Please get in touch if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Stamp

Head of Year