

Principal: Julie Caddell

**BARLBY  
HIGH  
SCHOOL**



2nd May 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you are already aware GCSE examinations for the 2018/19 academic year will begin on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and continue until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

The Department for Education guidelines surrounding study leave state that students are not entitled to study leave, and that the decision to have study leave lies with the individual school/academy. Research shows that few students can study independently for this extended period of time, and that they benefit from a targeted revision program in school coupled with focused independent learning at home.

We also feel with the introduction of the new GCSE exams changing to become more 'rigorous' (according to the Department for Education) and the raising of grade boundaries, that our students being in school for a longer period of time will allow for better exam preparation.

As a result of this and to maximise learning time in school, we will not be offering formal study leave. We intend to have a formal revision program which will be focussed on active recall sessions and exam practice until the exams for that subject are over and as such full attendance in school is expected through the exam season until their final exam on 14<sup>th</sup> June. We also intend to offer a room for silent revision during lunchtime where students can work. Students will still have plenty of time to revise quietly at home in the evenings and weekends, whilst still having access to purposeful revision under the direction of their teachers during the day.

We have also had requests for additional sessions during the upcoming half term break. This is a very busy time of year with both after school sessions and lunch time sessions running daily. We actively encourage the whole school community, including staff and students, to fully utilise the break and look after their well-being and mental health. As such we will not have a formalised programme in place but recognise that some staff will volunteer their time in this way.

As you know, the next few weeks are critically important to your child's future success. Thank you for your support in working with us to help your son/daughter organise their revision and study regularly to ensure that they perform at their very best in their exams.

Yours sincerely,

K Wallace  
Vice Principal: Curriculum and Achievement

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