

Dear Parent/Carer

As the Year 11 Mock Exams draw to end, we would like to inform you of some key updates.

### **Mock Exam Results Day – Tuesday 18th December 2018**

As in previous years, our Year 11 students will receive their mock exam results in a similar way to the August exam result. The results will be distributed to students on Tuesday 18th December. It is hoped that the experience of getting a set of results will enable students to both feel a sense of achievement and encourage them to continue to focus on preparing for the final examinations in order to allow them to achieve to the best of their potential.

During this day, it will be emphasised to students that it is not expected that all students will meet their target grades at this point in the academic year. The mock results should be treated as a means by which students and teachers re-focus their efforts in the most appropriate areas:

- if students have done well, they should take encouragement from this, but understand similar results are not guaranteed in the summer.
- if students have not done so well it is no guarantee of failure and there is still time to address any underperformance.

Heads of Department and subject teachers will already have analysed the areas that students will need to focus on over the coming months. Staff will be working with all of the students in their classes to ensure that they have the knowledge, understanding and exam strategies to perform at their best in the final exams in the summer.

### **Year 11 Parent Consultations – Wednesday 9th January 2019**

The Year 11 Parent Consultations are on Wednesday 9th January; please make sure that you make an appointment to discuss your child's progress with their teachers. More information about this will be published along with the mock exam results on Tuesday 18th December.

### **Year 11 CEIAG Interviews – w/b 28th January 2019**

In LLW lessons so far this term, all Year 11 students have considered the whole range of post 16 options available, including Sixth Form, college or apprenticeships so they can decide which route is best for them. Many students have already visited potential post 16 providers to investigate courses and options. Next term, all students in Year 11 will receive a careers guidance interview in order to help students define what they want from their future career and to give guidance on planning their next steps. These will be organised by Mrs Martindale, Head of CEIAG, and details of your child's interview will be sent home in the New Year.

## GCSEPod

To help sustain student's momentum after the Mock Exams, Longsands has invested in GCSEPod. GCSEPod provides over 6,000 3-5 minute bursts of visual learning via their short videos called 'Pods'. Each Pod is exam board specific, so you can be reassured your child is accessing the correct information.

GCSEPod makes learning and revision much more manageable as the Pods contain all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success and they are neatly organised into topic or exam playlists. Students can download the content to their mobile device so it's like they are carrying text books in their pockets without the need for internet. Students can download the GCSEPod app from the App Store (Apple and Android are supported).

We recommend that you discuss GCSEPod with your child to ensure that they have successfully activated their accounts and encourage them to make use of this service throughout their GCSEs. For more ways you can help support your child using GCSEPod, please visit [www.gcsepod.com/parents](http://www.gcsepod.com/parents) where you'll find lots more information and resources.

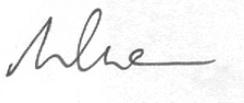
Your child has already been registered with GCSEPod and if they've not yet activated their account they will need to follow the instructions below:

- 1) Go to [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) and click "Login" in the top right-hand corner
- 2) Click "New here? Get started."
- 3) Select "Student"
- 4) Enter your child's name, date of birth and confirm the school name.
- 5) Create a username, password, and a password hint to help you remember the password.

If your child has already activated but can't remember their username and password, please ask them to contact us.

We hope all of the information outlined above will help support your child to ensure they can secure the best possible outcomes in their GCSE studies. If there is anything you would like to discuss further, please do contact us at the Academy.

Yours sincerely



Mr N Owen  
**Senior Assistant Principal (KS4)**



Mrs S Hills  
**Head of Year 11**

**Longsands Academy**  
Longsands Road, St Neots  
Cambridgeshire, PE19 1LQ  
Tel: 01480 353535

[www.astrea-longsands.org](http://www.astrea-longsands.org)  
**Principal:** Martin Paine

