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Dear Parents and Carers,

As another academic year draws to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Although September may feel a long way off, Year 11 is a truly significant year in every student's educational journey. Every year we see students return after the summer with a renewed sense of purpose and maturity. It is always a privilege to watch them grow in confidence as they prepare for their next steps beyond Bodmin College.

Whilst we hope students enjoy a well-earned break over the summer, it is worth recognising just how quickly the year passes. The first formal written GCSE examinations begin at the start of May. Before then, many students will also complete coursework and non-exam assessment deadlines, Modern Foreign Languages speaking examinations and practical examinations.

There are approximately 290 days until the first written GCSE examinations begin.

That number is certainly not intended to alarm anyone, but rather to highlight how quickly the months pass. Before we know it, we will be celebrating alongside our current Year 10 students at Leavers' Day and Prom, reflecting on everything they have achieved. We want every student to arrive at that point knowing they have made the very most of the opportunities available to them throughout the year.

Year 11 Roadmap and Summer 2027 Exam Timetable

Attached to this email is our Year 11 Road Map and the Summer 2027 Exam Timetable. At first glance it may look like a busy document, but we hope it provides a useful guide to the key milestones, events, support sessions and important dates that students and families can expect throughout the year. Please don't feel you need to digest it all at once - it is designed to be referred back to as the year progresses.

Year 11 Success Groups (Tutor Groups)

One of the most significant changes students will notice in September is their Year 11 success group. Each year we reorganise tutor groups so that students are supported by a specialist team of experienced Year 11 tutors. These staff have extensive experience of guiding students through their final year, supporting post-16 applications, developing effective revision strategies and providing subject-specific support in English, Mathematics and Science, alongside promoting positive wellbeing throughout what can be a demanding year.

Our Year 11 tutor programme has now been established for several years and has proven to be incredibly successful. Each week will typically include:

- a whole-year assembly, usually led by Miss Squires;
- three focused academic tutor sessions, concentrating on English, Mathematics and Science; and
- an Accelerate You session, focusing on revision techniques, exam preparation, organisation, wellbeing and preparing students for success beyond GCSEs.

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Students consistently tell us that these morning sessions are one of the most valuable aspects of their Year 11 experience, helping them to feel confident, organised and well prepared throughout the year.

Your child's Year 11 tutor will be confirmed via a separate email by the end of term.

Year 11 Staff Team

From September, Miss Squires will become Head of Year 11. Miss Squires brings a wealth of experience, having led a highly successful PE department which has consistently secured exceptional outcomes for students. We know she will provide outstanding leadership and support as she guides this year group through their final year at Bodmin College.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Taylor, who has been a constant source of support for this cohort, and many of you as parents and carers, throughout much of their time with us. She has already begun a thorough handover with Miss Squires to ensure a seamless transition and continued support for every student.

We are equally delighted to welcome Mr Frazer Elliott as our new Year 11 Year Manager. Although new to Bodmin College, Mr Elliott joins us with enormous enthusiasm, a passion for working with young people and a healthy competitive edge that I know will inspire and motivate students throughout the year.

My own role is Assistant Headteacher for Assessment and Standards, with strategic responsibility for Year 11. You will therefore hear from me regularly throughout the year as we share updates, celebrate successes and communicate key information about examinations and the support available to students. During the first few weeks of September, Miss Squires and I will also be meeting with many families individually to ensure students have the very best possible start to Year 11 and that any support needed is in place from the outset.

Year 11 is undoubtedly a busy year, but it is also an incredibly rewarding one. Students make remarkable progress over these final months, and we are excited to work in partnership with you to help every young person achieve their very best.

In the meantime, I hope you all enjoy a wonderful summer break. We look forward to welcoming our new Year 11 students back in September and supporting them through what promises to be an exciting and successful final year at Bodmin College.

Kind regards,

Gemma Cliffe
Assistant Headteacher – Assessment and Standards