

MBA/LGI
21 April 2021

By Parentmail

Dear Parents/ Carers

Additional INSET Day – Friday 28th May 2021

At the very end of the Michaelmas Term the Department for Education (DfE) offered schools the opportunity to take an additional INSET Day in January, to allow them time to organise their Covid-19 mass testing programmes and to prepare for remote teaching, during the period of full school closure in the most recent lockdown.

As we already had an INSET day scheduled for **4th January**, we utilised this time as recommended by the DfE and put on hold the staff training programme we previously had scheduled, anticipating that we may use the additional INSET day later in the year.

In light of the additional burden placed on schools to develop their own formal assessment systems for awarding GCSE and Vocational qualifications to students this year, we will be utilising the additional INSET day at the end of this half-term. This will enable us carry out the extensive extra assessment requirements appropriately. The new INSET day will take place **on Friday 28th May 2021**.

Therefore, for students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 this half-term will **end on Thursday 27th May** and the school will be closed to them **on Friday 28th May**. On that day, we will hold a leavers' assembly and BBQ for Year 11 as they will have concluded their formal assessments by this date, giving us a chance to celebrate their time at the school in a way we were unable to with students last year, because of the pandemic. Further details and timings for the assembly and BBQ will be shared with students nearer the time.

After half term (7th - 10th June) we will offer some sessions to those Year 11 students who have chosen A-level subjects that relate directly to the GCSE courses we currently run. We envisage studying those topics that were not covered/completed due to the impact of both lockdowns and that will relate to A-level syllabi. There may also be the need to contact individual students regarding their evidence folders.

Our final INSET day of this academic year will still take place directly after the end of term, **Thursday 8th July**, as previously scheduled.

Inspiring, enabling and celebrating each and every young person's personal best

We will continue to monitor the government guidance as this term progresses and will update parents and carers if we have any changes to the systems and protocols we are currently operating.

I thank you for your continued support of the school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lizzie Girling". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light blue, slightly textured background.

Lizzie Girling
Head of School