



24<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

### **Upper Five Interim Reviews**

The Upper Five Interim Reviews are now available for you to view on the Parent Portal. If you have any issues accessing your portal account please refer to our website under Instructions for guidance on checking how to reset your password or use the email address [portal@ladiescollege.ac.gg](mailto:portal@ladiescollege.ac.gg) if this does not resolve your issue. A copy of the Interim Review guidelines is attached. If you have any matters which you would like to discuss as a result of this review, please do contact the subject teacher, form tutor or me. Where “working towards” has been identified, we will already be looking at measures to be taken in school to address the situation.

My colleagues and I are working with the students to help them make preliminary A-level choices now, and shall continue to do so throughout this year. There are a number of opportunities for you all to meet with teachers and discuss the options available to them. The key dates are listed below, and I look forward to meeting you on these occasions. In addition, later in the year, students will have an opportunity to experience further taster sessions in subjects not taught at GCSE, and to spend some time talking to our current Lower Sixth students.

### **A- level Choices Evening Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - 18:00 to 20:30**

There will be a presentation at the beginning of the evening from both Principals, after which there will be opportunities to meet with subject staff.

### **Upper Five Parents' Evening Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

The Parents' Evening for Upper Five will be held on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November** from 17:00 and will end at 19:00. Students are encouraged to attend with you. The P.T.A. will be providing Coffee/Tea from the Core.

### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 (inclusive)**

Upper Five Mock (I)GCSE examinations

A copy of the timetable will be issued in January to allow students to prepare their revision schedule.

Upper Five are generally looking very smart in their uniforms, and we ask for your continued support to ensure that they wear their uniform with pride. Students are reminded that jewellery other than necklaces with religious significance and SOS identity bracelets/discs properly inscribed with the student's name is not be worn. I would also request that any nail varnish applied over the half-term break is removed before returning.

I have been generally very impressed with the attitude and work ethic shown by the students so far this term. The balance between school work, co-curricular activities and, if under-taken, part time employment can be hard to achieve. We have been aware in the past that when students over-commit themselves, it does have an adverse effect on their general well-being and their studies. It is very important for students to have time to relax during the week and at weekends.

With best wishes for a restful half-term break.

Yours sincerely,

*Tom McGovern*

Tom McGovern

**Upper Five Co-ordinator**

## Academic Year 2019 - 2020

### **Interim Reviews (Remove to Upper Five):**

These provide an intermediate overview of a girl's performance assessed against the following criteria. There will be two Interim Reports per year for most year groups and they are uploaded to the parent portal.

A SMART target will be set after the first Interim in a meeting between the student and their Form Tutor in November and these are reviewed in a second meeting in March. Upper Five and Lower Five students will also discuss their individual target grades from each of their subject teachers and the actions and support needed to work towards these. Parents' Evenings will provide an opportunity to review this together.

An Interim contains the following categories for comment:

### **Knowledge and Skills:** Understanding of work covered in **that group**

- **Exceeding** expectations - Has an excellent understanding of work covered
- **Meeting** expectations - Has a good understanding of work covered
- **Working towards** expectations - Has difficulties in understanding some parts of the work covered

The criteria for awarding each grade is based on the subject knowledge expected and agreed within each department for that group (year or set and not for each individual student). There should be a clear understanding as to what is required at each grade using written criteria that shows progress from one session to another.

### **Organisation:** Arrives to lessons correctly equipped and meets deadlines

- **Meeting** expectations - Brings the required equipment and hands work in on time (allow one slip but give a warning either verbally or, preferably, recorded in their homework diary)
- **Working towards** expectations - Has difficulties in bringing equipment etc. to lessons or handing work in on time

**Independent learning:** is a key skill for students to develop. Our definition of an Independent Learner is <https://www.ladiescollege.com/our-school/senior-school/independent-learning> and we provide opportunities for students to develop these attributes within and outside of subject lessons. Please follow the link for more details.

- **Exceeding** expectations – Students consistently demonstrate the skills relevant to the activity and at level appropriate to them e.g. reflecting on a test, piece of work or performance and being accountable for their actions; able to research effectively with minimal direction; work collaboratively with others and are self-motivated.
- **Meeting** expectations – Students usually demonstrate the skills relevant to the activity and at a level appropriate to them.
- **Working towards** expectations – Students are still developing skills and may require frequent support from the teacher.

### **Effort: In lessons**

- **Exceeding** expectations
- **Meeting** expectations
- **Working towards** expectations