



# Guilsborough Academy

Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust

Learning Without Limits

5<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Firstly, I would like to thank your child for their hard work in Mathematics over the past two terms as they prepared for their recent PPE examinations.

Further to our previous letter, as part of the recent reforms to GCSE Mathematics, the grades which students are able to achieve on the higher and foundation tier papers has changed. Before the reforms, the highest grade a student could achieve by sitting the foundation paper was a grade C. With the new specification, the highest grade which can be achieved by sitting the foundation paper has increased to a grade 5, with a high grade 5 being equivalent to a grade B in the old grading system. The grades which a student can achieve by the sitting the higher paper range from grades 4 to 9, which is equivalent to grades D to above A\*, however a grade 3 may be given for those students just below the marks required for a grade 4. If a student however does not achieve enough marks on the higher paper to achieve a grade 3 they will be awarded an ungraded mark, a U grade.

Our priority is to ensure that your child is entered for the tier in which they can achieve the best grade at the end of Year 11. As a result of assessments already completed in Year 11, we would like your child to complete another set of PPE papers in which they will sit the other tier to which they were entered in the November PPEs to help us ensure your child is entered in the correct tier in June. This means that if your child sat a foundation paper in November they will now sit a higher paper and vice versa. Unfortunately the exam board will not release any grade boundaries for the exams before they are sat in June which means that we want the comparison of marks on both tiers to ensure your child is entered for the correct tier for their GCSE.

To minimise disruption to other subject's lessons, these exams will take place during PSHE lessons on the 11th, 18th and 25th January. We are keen to keep the quantity of exams your child sits to a minimum, however we want to ensure your child achieves the best possible grade at GCSE Mathematics. These exams and the arrangements for sitting them will be discussed with your child in their next Mathematics lesson.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's Mathematics teacher if you would like to discuss this further.

Yours faithfully,

Miss J Furnell  
Head of Mathematics

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