

July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 10 Summer Transition Work**

We have been very impressed with the mature and focused manner in which Year 10 students have engaged with their GCSE studies in these unprecedented circumstances.

The strengthened, linear GCSE qualifications are much more rigorous and complex in their assessment of knowledge and skills. Therefore, they require students to be even more committed to independently reflecting on their learning and regularly revisiting subject content to ensure their learning is consolidated. The clear expectation is that all Year 10 students must continue to approach their learning in a way that will contribute to them making a successful transition to their GCSE examinations in the summer of 2021.

One of the most effective ways of helping students commit key information to their long-term memory is known as 'spacing' or 'spaced learning': "The spacing effect is the finding that information that is presented repeatedly with intervals is learned much better than information that is repeated without intervals. This effect is one of the most robust results in all of cognitive psychology."

Consequently, we have collated Summer Transition Work for Year 10 students to complete to help consolidate their learning in all subjects over the summer holiday. This work will be shared with students by subject teachers via Doodle and has also been collated on the Academy website. The resource can be located using this link: [www.astrea-longsands.org](http://www.astrea-longsands.org) and clicking on the 'Students' tab followed by the 'Summer Progress link'. Students should complete the work set for the subjects they are studying. This will be monitored by the classroom teacher in the first lesson back in September. **Please note that Doodle will be refreshed for the new academic year on 31st August and students should therefore aim to complete all summer work by this date.**

Whilst we recognise that all students need a break over the summer holiday, it is also important that they keep in touch with the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need for each subject. To that end, we thank you in anticipation for your support in ensuring this work is completed.

Earlier this week, Ofqual and the Department of Education have jointly published consultations on arrangements for awarding 2022 qualifications, in light of the ongoing pandemic. They are seeking views from a wide range of stakeholders, including students and parents/carers. The consultation will be open for 3 weeks starting on 12 July 2021 and ends on 1 August 2021 at 11:45pm. I would encourage you to read the documents and respond to ensure your views are considered. A copy of the DfE consultation document is here [Proposed changes to the assessment of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcse-as-and-a-levels-in-2022) and the Ofqual survey is here: [Proposed changes to the assessment of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2022 - Ofqual Citizen Space - Citizen Space](https://www.ofqual.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-on-proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcse-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/)

We look forward to September when more details about supporting students to GCSE success will be shared.

Yours sincerely



**Mr N D Owen**  
Principal



**Mr J T Milne**  
Head of Year 10