BUDMOUTH ACADEMY
WEYMOUTH

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Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: November Mock Examinations - English Language and Literature

I am writing to inform you about the upcoming November mock examinations for English. These mocks are an important opportunity for your child to experience sitting English papers under exam conditions, and to gain valuable feedback ahead of their final GCSE public examinations.

These mock examinations will be on the following papers:

- **AQA English Language Paper 1:** Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing – analysing a fiction extract and producing a descriptive or narrative writing piece.

- **AQA English Language Paper 2:** Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives – analysing two linked non-fiction texts and writing a persuasive or discursive response.

- **AQA English Literature Paper 2:** Modern Texts and Poetry – An Inspector Calls, unseen poetry, and comparing studied poems from the anthology 'Power and Conflict'.

Please note that English Literature Paper 1 was sat at the end of Year 10, and will be sat again in the February mock examination window.

These mock examinations are designed to highlight strengths and areas for development, allowing us to plan targeted support for your child in the succeeding months-both in class time, after school and during timetabled intervention sessions.

To help prepare your child for the demands of these exams, I have listed some strategies below:

- **Create a Revision Schedule:** Break revision into short, focused sessions (20–30 minutes) on analysing key quotations on the set texts with regular breaks to maintain concentration.

- **Encourage Active Revision:** Use flashcards for key quotations, mind maps for themes and characters, and practise timed responses using the 'weather, character, flashback, crisis, resolution, weather' structure for Language Paper 1 and constructing arguments for Language Paper 2.

- **Provide a Quiet Study Space:** Ensure your child has a distraction-free area to work, away from phones and other devices for a set period of time.

- **Discuss their Learning**: Ask them to explain a character, theme, or technique to you – teaching someone else is an excellent way to consolidate knowledge.

- **Keep Motivation High**: Reward consistent effort, not just results, and celebrate small successes along the way.

Post-exams your child will receive detailed feedback in class, and we will share their results with you via our reporting system. These results will enable us to work together to ensure they are fully prepared for their final exams next summer.

We hope that every student treats these exams with the same level of preparation and focus as they would with the real examination period. Research shows a clear connection between the effort students put into their mock exams and the results they achieve in their final assessments.

If you have any questions, or if you would like more information about supporting your child's revision, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working alongside you this year.

Kind regards,

Lucy England
Head of English