

14 December 2011

**To: Year 12 Parents**

Dear Parents

### **COA CENTIGRADE PROGRAMME**

I am delighted that almost all members of Year 12 will be entering the COA Centigrade programme. This reduces the cost to £18.50 per pupil, which will be added to your Summer Term account. The programme is computer-based and matches the individual student's interests and academic abilities with current degree courses. Once results have been analysed, COA will produce a detailed report for each pupil. Pupils will also receive a copy of a book entitled *Degree Course Descriptions*. These will help with the increasingly difficult task of choosing between the many thousands of single and combined degree courses on offer throughout the country's universities and colleges.

Pupils can access the Centigrade questionnaire at <http://direct.coa.co.uk/pgc/portsmouth>. They have already been given a briefing and instructions and many pupils have already started to complete it. Others can do so over the Christmas break. The instructions are available on the Sixth Form Information page of the school website.

If pupils choose to complete the questionnaire at home I would stress that they must not be influenced by outside sources when answering the questions. They must give sensible, truthful answers in order for the subsequent report to be of value. Too many 'Not sure' answers will also make it difficult to produce a meaningful report. If pupils begin the questionnaire at home but experience difficulties they can save their responses and complete the questionnaire when they return to school in January.

All questionnaires must be completed by **Friday 6 January** in order for reports to be returned before the Careers and Gap Year Convention on Thursday 23 February.

Yours sincerely



**P W Galliver**  
**UCAS Co-ordinator**