



9th February 2021

Dear Parent(s)/ Carer(s) (and for year 11 Students' information),

We are writing to share our plans for a two-week assessment period for our Year 11 students.

This assessment period will take place between **Monday 22nd February and Friday 5th March 2021.**

Students have been working incredibly hard and while we await the results of the consultation on awarding GCSE grades, we feel it important to give students the experience of a formal assessment, albeit online.

Whilst this fortnight will provide one or more pieces of evidence for your daughter, we expect there to be more assessment events as and when students return to school.

THE PURPOSE OF THE ASSESSMENT PERIOD

The assessment of your daughter's work will provide valuable and necessary information on:

- Your daughter's current level of achievement
- Areas in which your daughter needs to address gaps in understanding or skills

THE FORMAT OF THE ASSESSMENTS

The assessments will be taken by students online and their work will be submitted to teachers within normal lesson time. Whilst we cannot replicate a series of mock examinations, we will provide your daughter with assessment tasks that allow us to gather authentic and meaningful data about her academic performance.

Students will be expected to follow instructions regarding the uploading of any work within a directed time. This is to ensure that work can be considered as having been completed within secure conditions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR YOU AND YOUR DAUGHTER

- All students will continue to follow their normal timetable throughout the two-week period. Assessments will take place in lesson time.
- Students will receive notification of which lessons will be assessment sessions – as usual via FROG. Individual assessments will be a maximum of 45 minutes for a single lesson and 1 hour, 30 minutes over a double lesson. As this will be shorter than the usual 1 hour lessons/2 hour doubles it gives students some down time if they have consecutive lessons with assessments and time to upload the work.

- Each GCSE will have a maximum of 3 hours over the 2-week period devoted to assessment.
- Subject teachers will provide some information about the topics covered ahead of the assessment lesson. Assessments will be based on topics covered by students to date.
- Lessons will continue as normal where there is no assessment taking place. Your daughter will need to follow teacher instructions on uploading work for the assessment task.
- If your daughter is eligible for any concessions during an examination series, this will be taken into consideration by teachers setting and marking work produced.
- BTEC and Vocational Studies lessons will continue as usual during this period.

A TIMELINE

- **Monday 22nd February – Friday 5th March:** assessment period takes place in lesson time
- **Monday 8th March – Friday 19th March:** teaching staff mark and moderate work produced
- **Monday 22nd March – Friday 26th March:** report data prepared for students and parents/ carers

The data reported to students, parents and carers from this assessment period will include **current achievement (GCSE) grade, forecast (GCSE) grade and continuing assessment data for BTEC and Vocational Studies courses.**

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Davies
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs J Eldridge
Assistant Headteacher