

12 March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE:

As students are returning to school it is perhaps now an ideal time to share with you some updates to teaching provision. As part of the process to enable teachers to finally award centre assessed grades to students we have to work towards Exam Board guidance and recently published assessment frameworks for each subject area. Part of this compliance will involve students having to undertake where appropriate, subject assessments. Please be reassured these are not full exam papers but may be specific questions or tasks for students to undertake that allow staff to determine pupil understanding of key skill areas relevant to the subject specification.

15 – 26 March: Years 11, 12 and 13 start reintegration back to school, but there will be no assessments scheduled between 15-26 March. However teachers will use a portion of this time to explain how students will be assessed as part of the preparation.

12 April – 28 May: The school and therefore departments will look to make use of a flexible assessment window for the 7 weeks after Easter. The idea behind this is to spread the assessments and associated marking across timeframe. Students will be given advanced warning when assessments are to be carried out. Any assessments will hopefully be undertaken in lessons, with the teacher, in the classroom.

To reassure you and your child, the classroom based assessments will not be the sole point of evidence to determine a student grade. Also included will be NEA evidence and as a contributory factor the prior performance of the students in the subject using the variety of evidence available including coursework and test results.

Progress Feedback: Most parents are now in receipt of regular feedback on phones or other digital devices as part of the data shared from the school via Schoolcomms. Please be advised due to the need for a period of reintegration and the need to start building the evidence to support centre assessed grades, we will not be publishing Half Term 4 and Half Term 5 progress indicators with you. Hopefully it is appreciated that in order to fulfil the Exam Board requirements teachers will need to focus on collecting and reflecting on a variety of evidence to support the awarding of a final grade during these 2 terms to ensure the final award is an accurate judgement.

Yours faithfully

Mr D L Davies
Assistant Headteacher