

April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

End of Year Assessment/Exams for Years 7 - 10 & Year 12

As we approach the final term of this academic year, I am writing to you to outline our plans for the end of year exams, and to explain how this links to parental reports.

Our current Year 12's in particular have not experienced a series of exams for many months, so it is important that we prepare them in readiness for their final exams next summer. Year 10 will also be approaching their final year of KS4 courses and it is important that they get a chance to prepare and experience assessments in a more formal setting. There is no better preparation for public examinations than completing exams in a real formal setting, where children get to experience the routine, rules and timings of the exams, prior to the real thing.

Between now and the 10th June all year groups will undertake end of year exams/assessments. For Years 7-9 these will take place in timetabled lessons. For Year 10, English, Maths and Science, will take place in the Gym Halls and other subjects will be completed in timetabled lessons. Year 12 exams will predominantly be completed in the Gym Halls. This is where their genuine exams will take place at the end of Year 13.

Year 9 exams will also have some significance, as they will assist us in ensuring that students are in the correct GCSE groups in Maths, Science and Modern Languages. In these subjects there are different exams that target different levels of ability. For example, Higher and Foundation Level. Correct groupings in these subjects will help us prepare students for the different exams they will be taking.

In Science, the information from assessments will be used to allocate students to the AQA Science GCSE course that is appropriate for them. The most able students in the year group will be selected to study separate sciences at Higher Tier entry in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and will be awarded three GCSE grades at the end of their course. The remaining students will be selected for AQA Trilogy, a "Double Award" combined science GCSE, studying all three sciences. This will lead to an award of two science GCSE grades at the end of their course. This can be entered at either Higher or Foundation tier. It is worth pointing out that Double Award combined science still enables students to access courses at A level.

The results from these assessments will be included in the end of year reports for each year group. These reports will also include the usual progress and effort information, plus a written comment from Tutors that provides an overview of your child's academic progresses as well as a summary of their engagement in wider aspects of school life. These reports will be issued on July 8th.

Yours sincerely



Peter Hudson
Vice Principal