



1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and students in Year 11 and 13

Please find below information further clarifying arrangements for Year 11 and Year 13.

**Teacher Assessed Grades – Information Booklet and ‘Current Grades’**

You will be aware, from my previous correspondence on 12<sup>th</sup> March, that this year’s GCSE, BTEC and A Level grades will be awarded by Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) in the summer. I can assure you we are following all aspects of the guidance released by Joint Council for Qualification (JCQ), Ofqual and the DFE. Links to this guidance will be provided in your information booklet.

Students in both Year 11 and 13 have been working hard on the first of a series of assessments, which in addition to their upcoming assessment(s) and a range of prior evidence, will allow teachers to arrive at the final TAGs.

Our intention is to provide you with an information booklet, within the first two weeks of returning next term. This booklet will help to reassure you about the rigorous way in which we are awarding TAGs, what elements each subject is using to form the TAGs and how we will be moderating and ensuring teachers are marking objectively and without bias.

In this booklet we will also be sharing with you the ‘Current Grade’ for your child for each subject. This is not the final Teacher Assessed Grade, which will be awarded after all assessments are complete and we are not allowed to share. This grade represents the grade your child should achieve or improve on if he/she continues to work hard and achieves to their expected standard in the final assessments. Therefore, please encourage your child to continue to work hard in lessons and at home, in preparation for their remaining assessments.

We are sharing our process and ‘Current Grades’ to enable parents and carers to raise any questions now, so that we can support families, prior to the release of final TAGs in August.

**Easter Revision for Year 11 and 13**

Your child’s teachers will have outlined what revision and preparation needs to be done over the Easter holiday. Whilst students will not be sitting a full examination series, it is important they revise the key topics for the upcoming assessment series.

**Year 11 Easter Revision Sessions**

Due to the way in which the assessments have been structured most subjects feel they have enough time within lessons for preparation and revision. The subjects below are offering additional sessions for Year 11 only, during the Easter holiday. These sessions are open to any students who wish to attend.

Date	Subject	Time	Room
6.04.21	Drama	10-2pm	Hall
07.04.21	Maths	10-12pm	Wilson
13.04.21	Art & Design	10-2pm	E7,8



## **Year 11 and 13 Leaving Day**

Year 11 and 13 will officially finish on Friday May 28<sup>th</sup>, by which time all assessments will have been completed. Our intention is to then offer Year 11 students a range of optional sessions to prepare for further study including: Sixth Form induction, taster sessions for new subjects and subject specific sessions to support students in preparing for Post 16 study. The times and dates for these sessions will be published later next half term. For any Year 13 students, who feel they may need support in preparing for study at University, we would ask them to speak to the Sixth Form team so we can consider what provision can be put in place for them.

## **School Proms and Leavers' Assemblies**

Unfortunately, we have had to tell the students in Year 11 that we will not be able to have a prom this summer. The provisional date in the government roadmap for lifting all restrictions is June 21<sup>st</sup> and this is too close to the possible dates for prom. We would not want families to spend large amounts of money nor the school to be left with significant financial liabilities, if we had to cancel. The Year 13 event is not a prom and is organised very differently, so there is a possibility something could be put in place, with a decision to be made nearer the time.

I am pleased to say that this year we will be having Leavers' Assemblies for both Year 11 and 13. These are very special events and we will be making every effort to ensure these are events the students will enjoy and remember. These events will take place in the second half of the summer term, with dates and times to be confirmed.

## **Amazing students**

Finally, I want to say well done to all the students in Year 11 and 13, who have worked so hard over the last term. The way in which the vast majority of students engaged with the online learning has meant they have been able to continue with their learning effectively and have therefore approached the first series of assessments with confidence.

We are very proud of all our Year 11 and 13 students and look forward to working with them in their final weeks.

Best wishes

*I Smith-Childs*

Ian Smith-Childs  
Headteacher