

29 June 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers




I am writing to inform you that we will be running a 'self-assessment' throughout this week.

As I'm sure you can appreciate, it is crucial that your teachers have a detailed understanding of how much you have learnt over the past year and especially since lockdown. It is equally important for us to understand where there are gaps in your knowledge. This allows staff to plan accordingly in order to maximise lesson time over the coming weeks and into the next academic year as we all work together to catch up on the time that we have lost.

As you will know from how year 11 were assessed this year, every assessment opportunity is absolutely crucial. In addition to the planned assessment sessions that we have throughout the academic year, it is also crucial that you fully understand the importance of every single lesson, whether you are in school or at home and that the work that you complete and the effort that you make will impact upon the final outcomes in your examinations.

We believe that a traditional 'exam week' would add an unnecessary amount of stress upon you. That said, it remains vital that your teachers are able to assess your understanding and the progress that you are making. As a result, staff have planned a range of assessment opportunities for you to complete. Departments will guide you according to what they feel is appropriate to the work that they are setting you.

It is also hugely important that you are able to assess your own level of understanding within the content of each of your subjects. We would therefore recommend that you consider going through your work and giving it what is known as a 'RAG rating'. This is a simple system that will be very helpful to you when it comes to revising for future exams as you will quickly be able to target areas that require further work/improvement. All you need to do is assess your own level of understanding by writing a letter or adding a colour to indicate the following;

-  or G - I fully understand this.
-  or A - I am nearly there, but need to work on this.
-  or R - I don't understand and need to work hard on this.

It is crucial that you are completely honest when indicating your understanding of each question. This work will be the only work set for you to complete at home during the self-assessment review week. The work that you do in school, will be in addition to this work.

Departments that are setting work on paper are preparing this so that they can be placed in an envelope that you will be able to collect when you are next in school or it will be sent home. Staff will indicate their plans for this on SMHW and the majority of work will be set online. All staff who are required to touch the paper have to wash their hands prior to touching the paper. The paper is then left for the guided 24hours prior to you being able to collect it to be absolutely certain that there is no chance of any potential contamination. When you return the paper, we will go through the same system before staff are allowed to collect it for marking.

We look forward to seeing you in school. For those of you who are shielding, work will be sent home and we will look forward to seeing you as soon as it is safe to do so.

Stay safe and healthy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A. Beere".

Mr A. Beere  
Assistant Headteacher