

10th May 2022

Dear all,

Arrangements for Year 11 & Year 13 examinations this Summer

I am writing to update you about the plans for external exams for Year 11 and Year 13 students.

Exams **will** go ahead this Summer, the first time since 2019. Exam boards have been busy making changes to the content covered, advance information has been shared for some subjects and supportive materials will be provided for some exams. You can read the government's guidance here.

We understand that you may have concerns about sitting exams, however remember if you continue to work hard with your teachers and stay focused over the next 8 weeks, you will get the best possible results in the Summer. It goes without saying that your attendance over the coming two months is incredibly important.

Wherever possible you must attend all of your exams, as missing even one will impact on your grades. However, there may be exceptional cases where you may need to miss an exam, and we wanted to explain about arrangements around COVID-19.

In line with government guidance, you should not attend an exam if:

- You test positive for COVID-19. In this situation, you should selfisolate for 3 days from the day you took the positive test and should miss any scheduled exams during this period.
- You are not well enough to attend (such as being unwell with high temperature). If you are unwell with a high temperature, you should self- isolate until you no longer have a high temperature and are well A Booth enough to attend the academy.

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However, you **should** attend the academy and sit exams if:

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 You have mild symptoms of COVID 19 or other illnesses, such as a runny nose or sore throat, but are otherwise well (unless you have tested positive for COVID-19, where you should then self-isolate for 3 days from the positive test result).

If you do miss an exam due to COVID-19 then we would follow a special consideration process. This involves you and your parent or carer filling in forms that confirm details of your illness, and we will support you with this.

Whilst this support is in place, exam boards have not yet confirmed how exam results will be calculated if you miss an exam or series of exams. Therefore we do strongly advice you to attend all of your exams unless you test positive for COVID-19 or have a high temperature and are unwell.

Please note that the exam boards have ensured that the first and last exam in every subject is taking place a minimum of 10 days apart, reducing the chance of anyone missing all exams in a subject because of illness.

We know that the last two years of disruption caused by the pandemic has created additional barriers for you to overcome. We want you to know that we are incredibly proud of you, and the resilience you have shown, and that we are here to support you every step of the way. We cannot wait to celebrate your achievements with you in the Summer.

Should you have any questions or queries that you would like answered, please do speak to a member of staff so that we can support you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Booth
Executive Principal

A Booth

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