



The Talentum Learning Trust

Westwood
College

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Our Ref: TYL/jc

5th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 11 and 13 Gradings for Summer 2021

I hope that you and your families are well.

As you will be aware, last week more information was provided to schools on how students in examination year groups will be graded this summer.

Although we still await specific advice from individual subject examinations boards, we feel that we are in a position to share our intentions for the coming weeks in terms of assessments to ensure that you have the most information possible.

Year 11

Students in Year 11 will begin returning to face-to-face teaching from Thursday 11th March. Teachers will use the first two full weeks to establish student progress and to identify any gaps in essential learning. They will also deliver new content where they feel it is relevant and of benefit to students. From Monday 29th March until Friday 28th May, in-class assessments will be scheduled and completed in each subject.

These assessments will:

- Be focused on material that students have covered and are confident with;
- Be scheduled in a way that gives students ample notice and the time to prepare;
- Take place in classrooms;
- Offer students the opportunity to demonstrate their ability.

The aim will be to compile a portfolio of evidence for each student in each of their subjects from which teachers will generate grades. This will likely include Non-Examined Assessment ('coursework') in relevant subjects, and may also include trial examination results and/or work completed previously on the course where appropriate. We will aim to give all students the opportunity to produce work that reflects their ability, although it is important to acknowledge that there will not be endless opportunities to complete assessments in pursuit of a specific grade.

After the 28th May, Departments will complete internal moderation exercises to ensure the grades determined are accurate and fair.



Subject Leaders will, following the advice and guidance from examination boards, share their plans with students. We will send this information out as soon as we have it, ideally ahead of next week's Parents' Evening, to ensure students and parents have a good understanding of the arrangements.

Year 13

Students in Year 13 return to face-to-face teaching from Wednesday 10th March.

Trial examinations for Year 13 students are scheduled to take place during the week beginning 22nd March. This schedule has been shared with students; we ensure any changes or updates are also communicated.

Further assessments for Year 13 will follow a similar pattern (in terms of dates, the material covered and notice) as that outlined above for Year 11.

For both Year groups, no single assessment piece, trial examination or otherwise, will be used to determine a grade, but rather a collection of pieces reflecting as best as possible what has been covered in each subject.

In the meantime, please encourage students to talk to their teachers and to ask questions should they have any. We want to do our best to reassure students in what we know has been a challenging time. Helping students to achieve the grades they are capable of, and ensuring they are able to confidently take their next steps, is of utmost importance to us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Taylor', written in a cursive style.

Mr M Taylor
Headteacher