

19th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As you will recall, my letter dated 15th November, highlighted the Ofqual and DfE announcements regarding contingency assessment plans in the unlikely event that the summer exams in 2022 do not go ahead and our initial response to these recommendations.

I am now writing to you with further details regarding the Year 11 in-class assessments that will take place in the two weeks prior to the Christmas holiday and the Year 13 Trial Exams that will take place starting Tuesday 4th January 2022.

Year 11 In-class Assessments (Monday 6th – 17th December 2021)

As Ofqual stipulates, we must inform students and parents/carers that the marks achieved on these end of term assessments will be used as part of the evidence to formulate a Centre Assessed Grade in the unlikely event that the exams in summer 2022 are cancelled.

With this in mind we have designed an assessment timetable, spread across two weeks, that ensures students have no more than one in-class assessment per day.

Also, attached to this letter are the topics each assessment will cover so that students can focus their revision. (You will see that some subjects have longer lists than others – this is because the topic areas are shorter). Revision will also take place in lessons.

The following is the timetable of assessments that will allow students to know when each assessment will take place. Please discuss the timings of these assessments with your child. We will also be doing this in school.

Week 1	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Mon 6th Dec	Option A				
Tue 7th Dec	All Science PQ	All Science RS			
Wed 8th Dec			Option C		
Thur 9th Dec	Eng. Lang. X (P/Q)		Eng. Lang. Y (R/S)		
Fri 10th Dec		Option D			

Week 2	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Mon 13th Dec				Option B	
Tue 14th Dec	Carol Service rehearsals/Pre St James' visit				
Wed 15th Dec	Maths X (P/Q)	Maths Y (R/S)			
Thur 16th Dec	Eng. Lit. X (P/Q)		Eng. Lit. Y (R/S)		
Fri 17th Dec	Triple Sci RS		Triple Sci PQ		

To reduce the pressure on students, all assessments are taking place in lessons. This means students will sit the assessment for a particular subject in the period they would normally have that subject.

Tutors and teachers will work closely with all students to ensure they know precisely when each assessment takes place.

Students will often be sitting the same subject at different times during the two-week assessment period. To ensure fairness, while the topic areas will remain the same in each subject, the questions will be amended each time.

In science, all students will sit an assessment on either Period 1 or Period 2 on Tuesday 7th December. However, those students taking triple science will sit an additional assessment during Period 1 or Period 3 on Friday 17th December.

Year 13 Trial Exams (Week commencing Tuesday 4th January 2022)

As Ofqual stipulates, we must inform students and parent/carers that the marks achieved on these Trial Exams will be used as part of the evidence to formulate a Centre Assessed Grade in the unlikely event that the exams in summer 2022 are cancelled.

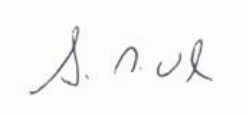
Year 13 students will receive the Trial Exam timetable in the week beginning 29th November. However, topics to be covered in these Trial Exams are attached with this letter so that students can focus their revision over the coming weeks. (You will see that some subjects have longer lists than others – this is because the topic areas are shorter). Revision will also take place in lessons.

Conclusion

While my reservations remain about the DfE/Ofqual's plans regarding these assessments I want to reassure parents and students that we will support our students through this process by not only providing the topics to be covered but also supporting students with their revision in the lead up to these assessments. As has been the case for Centre Assessed Grades for the last two years, all assessments will be standardised and moderated.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



STEVE WILSON
Headteacher