



25 April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to outline arrangements for the Year 12 assessments that take place in June. This information has already been shared with Year 12 students.

Exams will run between 17 - 25 June. The **assessment schedule** is attached to this letter and is also available on the school website [here](#). Students will be able to access their **individual exam timetable** on Edulink from 3 June. During the exam period, students only need to come into school for their exams and may revise at home at other times. Students are of course still welcome to come into school to study independently, and for some students this will be a sensible choice. They must sign in and out at the bottom of the Tower Block as usual. Staff will be available if students need any subject guidance or pastoral support during the exam period; we encourage them to arrange a mutually convenient time to talk to staff wherever possible.

Students taking Art will have a practical assessment on Friday 14 June.

Students should arrive at the correct exam venue no later than 08:45 for a morning exam and 12:45 for an afternoon exam.

If a student is unable to come into school for an assessment because of illness, or is likely to be late for an assessment due to transport problems, please phone Reception to let the school know as soon as possible. There will be no formal catch-up exam sessions for students who are unable to attend assessments. Assessments will only be re-scheduled for students who are unwell where their absence is confirmed by a doctor's letter. If students miss an assessment they should liaise with their subject teacher, who will decide if it is appropriate for students to have a copy of the paper to complete in their own time. If all assessments for a subject are missed, this will significantly limit the data available to subject teachers when setting predicted grades.

It is the students' responsibility to ensure they bring the correct equipment required to complete their assessments, such as a calculator for Maths assessments.

Preparing for Year 12 assessments

The Year 12 formal assessments are an opportunity for teachers to assess students' learning in Year 12. They also form an important part of their preparation for the A Level exams at the end of Year 13, as they enable students to practise revision skills and to experience the process of formal assessments in one of the school's exam venues (usually the Main Hall or Harding Hall).

Subject teachers will talk to students about their assessments and will give them some understanding of the format, some appropriate sense of what they need to be focusing on in their revision and some thoughts on useful ways to prepare for formal assessments. We have encouraged them to talk to their teachers if they are at all unsure, or have any questions.

We want students to remember that sleep, rest and relaxation are arguably at least as important components of success as focused revision, so maintaining a good balance is essential.

Ahead of the assessment period, students should familiarise themselves with the AHS Exam Candidate handbook which we produce for students sitting public exams but contains useful information for all assessments. It is available on the school website under Curriculum: Exams and is also linked [here](#).

Predicted grades

The majority of the year group are likely to choose to apply for higher education courses, apprenticeships and other opportunities that require predicted A Level grades. We will tell students their predicted grades before the end of the Summer Term. Predicted grades represent teachers' professional judgement about the A Level grades that they believe students have the ability to earn at the end of Year 13 if they continue to work hard and prepare properly for exams.

In making those predictions, teachers will take into account the Year 12 formal assessments, but also students' performance throughout Year 12, their professional knowledge about their Year 13 courses and the A Level examination process, as well as their judgement about students' work ethic and potential.

Please do encourage your daughter to talk to any member of staff if she has any questions or concerns about the assessments.

Kind regards

Mrs M Sutton
Head of Year 12