

16 October 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As promised, I have an update on the summer exam series. You may have seen the announcement earlier this week detailing that exams in England will go ahead. They have said that these will be delayed by three weeks and the content reduced. The content is still an area we are awaiting absolute clarity over from the exam boards. I hope to get more detail out to you on content changes next week.

What we do know right now is that the main bulk of the exams will begin on **7th June** and end on **2nd July**. There are however a few that will occur before the May half term – one English paper, one Maths paper and possibly some practical subjects such as Art and Drama (we will of course confirm once we have exact dates for each exam.)

The pre-public examinations this year will commence on **Monday 30th November** and run for two weeks.

An update to the support sessions for Year 11

Music support and PE have now been added. There will also be some English support starting after half term. More information will be sent out regarding that from the English team.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ICT 3.15-4pm – E14	Visual Art 3.15-4.15pm – D9, E2 & E3	GCSE PE Lunch Time 1.30-2.00pm D2 *NEW*	Drama 3.45-4.45pm – A block
Product Design 3.30-4.30pm – D1 & D2			Combined Science (Triple Scientists also welcome) 3.15-4.15pm – D16 & D18
Study Club 3.15-4.15pm - D7	Study Club 3.15-4.15pm - D7	Starts after 1/2 term	
Music 3.30-4.30pm MU1 & MU2 *NEW*			

High Performance Learning

The HPL focus for next week is Realising – in particular ‘Automaticity.’



‘The ability to use some skills with such ease as they no longer require active thinking’

The Year 11s should be practicing, rehearsing and revising so that knowledge recall, application of skills and decision making are more autonomous. We don’t really think when going to kick a ball, or write our name or ride a bike. However, at one stage, this was so new to us and needed a lot of thought and consideration to get right. The more we do something the more confident we become. Recapping new material to help it become embedded, practising past paper exam questions, and talking about what they have learning will all help them achieve Automaticity.

COVID Update

We are still handing out almost 100 masks every single day – Year 11s are included in this number. Please ensure your child always has a face mask with them. Preferably a reusable/fabric one, as the surgical/disposable masks seem to snap during the day meaning we have to replace it for them.

Tutor Time - Wednesday

On Wednesday morning all year groups will have tutor time. This is an opportunity for tutors to regroup with their tutees and spend some time looking at their pastoral well-being. During this time, they will also be introduced via video, to Sheila Morgan, our careers advisor who has prepared a presentation for the Year 11s centred around careers advice.

Yours Faithfully,

Kathryn Wittich-Jackson
Assistant Principal