



Year 11 Bulletin

07/05/2021

Dear parents and carers,

As ever our students are coping admirably with the challenges of this term; tying in nicely with our HPL focus this week of "resilience." We do fully understand how stressful and tiring the continual assessments must be, and especially salute those students taking 3 assessments in one day! Unbelievably, there are just 15 days left of Year 11; we are more than half-way through this jam-packed term, and there is light at the end of the tunnel.

The Year 11 tutors are already looking forward to spending a last hour with our tutees before they leave on Friday 28th May. We will have a lunch party, so students can bring in snacks and treats, and they will then leave school at 2.30pm. All being well, they will return on Thursday 24th June for a leavers assembly. Having been a tutor for 5 years I'm going to need some tissues for that!

Assessment timetable

It is concerning that some students do not seem to know when their assessments are or what topic they are covering. Please be assured that all assessment information is posted by the teacher on the class Team and of course discussed in the lesson. The timetable was sent to parents and posted on the Year 11 Team some weeks ago. There will inevitably have been some changes, so your son/daughter should be checking their class Team page every day for updates. I would highly recommend that they create an assessment timetable to refer to, with the date and topic of the assessment.

Special consideration

If you think that your son/daughter's performance in an assessment has been affected, or will be affected, by illness or personal circumstances, please write to our exams officer, Mrs Man, on SMan@ccs.northants.sch.uk

It is important that you raise any such instances before we submit our grades. We don't currently have detailed guidelines on how personal circumstances will be taken into account, but we will be in touch about this.

Upcoming Events

HPL - w/c 19 April

The High Performance Learning focus for the week of 19th April is:

Linking – Imagination

The ability to represent the problem and its categorisation in relation to more extensive and interconnected prior knowledge'

Imaginative play is essential in helping curious children make sense of their world. Imagination is found in all children but like all other thinking characteristics, it can be enhanced and developed.

Conversation starters: How would you weigh a giraffe/bridge/house etc. Other questions might be about new laws they would introduce, or changes to society they would implement, design ideas - what would they change about existing products etc.

Student Reminders

Covid self- testing at home

Students should continue to self-test at home on a Sunday and Wednesday. Students can collect kits from lower D block.

Post half term provision

As you know, the leaving date is 28th May, however your son/daughter might be required to continue providing evidence after half-term if they are behind with coursework or have missed key assessments.

As outlined previously, the statutory leaving date for Year 11 is Friday 25th June, and as a school we are expected to continue some sort of provision until that date. Mrs Wittich-Jackson will be in touch with you next week to communicate more information regarding the virtual provision between 7th-25th June.

Autumn exam series

Ofqual [announced](#) yesterday that there will be a full series of GCSEs and A levels, plus some AS levels, taking place in November and December 2021. This means that students who wish to improve on their TAG have the opportunity to do so, and they will only be open to students receiving a teacher-assessed grade (TAG) this summer.

The key points from the announcement are as follows:

- Exam boards will be required to offer exams in all GCSE subjects.
- The exams will be in their normal format, with no adaptations being made.
- Except for art and design qualifications, grades will be determined by students' performance in the exams only – there will be no non-exam assessments.
- For art and design qualifications, grades will be determined by students' performance in a task set and marked by the exam board.

Antisocial behaviour

Unfortunately we have had numerous reports of antisocial behaviour by CCS students, including those in Year 11.

With primary students:

- One of our primary teachers reported that while her Year 6 class were doing PE on the field, a group of Year 11, male students were shouting and swearing at each other, while close to the younger students. She told me that this was not an isolated incident, and that in general, older students do not seem to have the same respect for the younger students as they used to. This is very disappointing and something we will be looking into with the all-through team. Many Year 11 students have younger siblings and we would expect better from them.

Rubbish left in classrooms:

- It was very disappointing to find two of our Year 11 classrooms in a frankly disgusting state this week due to rubbish and left-over food on the floor and desks. There are bins in every classroom. Having classrooms open at break and lunch times is a privilege and classrooms will be locked if students choose not to keep them pristine. We would hope that students understand the need to look after their learning environment.

At Wootton rec:

- We know that many year 11s frequent Wootton Rec. Parents and students need to be aware of this update from our Community Police team: "There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour in Wootton rec and the surrounding area, the policing team are dealing with it and if students are caught displaying antisocial behaviour, they will be dealt with robustly".

On the footpath towards Grange Park:

- We have received reports that trees near the bridge over the brook on the public footpath used to walk to and from Grange Park have been vandalised to the point of being replanted.

With local residents:

- We have had reports of an on-going issue with "cherry door knocking." I am hoping that 15 and 16 year olds are far too mature for this so-called game, but felt it was worth mentioning as it causes particular distress to our elderly neighbours.

This comment received from a local resident certainly hits home: "Whilst I accept you cannot supervise pupils outside school hours, as they are wearing school uniform they are acting as ambassadors for the school. Unfortunately, their behaviour falls well short of what is acceptable."

I am sure you will agree that it is our mission as parents, together with the school, to create responsible and respectable young adults.

As always, if you have any concerns please do contact myself or Mrs Wittich-Jackson so that we can support your son/daughter in any way possible.

Thank you for your continued support, and stay safe.

Yours faithfully,

Lowri Briggs
Progress Leader for Year 11