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Dear Parents and Carers

Year 12 online assessments in the weeks beginning 1 June and 8 June 2020

We hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. We really appreciate how difficult the 'lock-down' period has been for our students and their families, and we thank you for everyone's perseverance in the circumstances.

As trailed in our letter of the 23 April, we would like to check student understanding of the online work we have set and intend to do so with two weeks of online assessments which will start on 1 June and run for two weeks. Please be reassured that these assessments are purely a tool for our teaching teams to gauge where the students have reached in their learning. We believe that the great majority of Year 12 students have been working steadily under quite difficult circumstances and setting appropriate assessments is a way for us to acknowledge this.

Each of your child's teachers will set an assessment during this two-week period, so there will be at most six tests which will be set using Teams or other online tools and which will run during your child's scheduled online lessons. Other online lessons will continue as normal during the assessment period. Some subjects have already set interim assessments and won't need to set more in early June.

Staff will set appropriate questions and have been asked to be generous with timings for assessment components if 'against the clock'. Students with extra time or other provision will of course have this. Please ask your child to email their teachers if they want to check specific arrangements about this. Students may choose to type any assessment work and submit it electronically if they wish; alternatively, it will in many cases be best to photograph responses and email these instead.

Please find attached the timetable for these assessments. Of course, many students will already know from conversations with teaching staff and their tutor about when they are due to take place.

We are now in discussion as a school about how to act on the government's current request that we offer "some face to face support for pupils from 1 June". Presently we anticipate that we may ask to see students in small groups from the 15 June once we have information from the assessments we have set and have worked out how the timetable for this face-to-face contact will work. We will write to you again about this as soon as arrangements are finalised.

Your child's teachers will be able to clarify the particular nature of the assessments that are to be set. Please contact either your child's form tutor or Mr Bradshaw and I if you need further information.

Please keep safe.

Yours sincerely

Jon Bradshaw
Assistant Headteacher: Sixth Form

Heather Odd
Head of Year 12