

25/02/2021

Dear Year 13 Students (and Parents for information),

March Assessments Timetable and Key Information

Please find attached the timetable for the March Assessments, which run from **Monday 8 March - Monday 15 March** with study leave from Monday 1 March - Monday 15 March inclusive. Further details about arrangements for the Assessments, including your arrival on site, seating plans and required equipment will follow next week.

Your teachers should have provided you before the half-term break with a list of the topics that will be tested in the assessments. The topics will focus on areas of the A level course taught before the current lockdown. If you are unsure what will be tested or have specific questions about the format of the assessments, please contact your subject teachers directly for information. They will be happy to provide guidance.

To help you prepare for the assessments, the School has designated next week a 'study leave' week, which means that you do not need to attend any remote lessons. This will allow you to organise your time and revision most effectively in the run-up to the assessments. Your teachers will, however, be online and available to support you during the times you would normally have lessons.

In the meantime, all remaining lessons this week will be focussed on the material and topics in the March assessments. Your teachers have been told not to set homework. Our aim is to give you as much time as possible outside lessons to revise.

As the Headmaster and I said in our online meetings with you over the past two days, the March assessments will not be the only evidence used when it comes to calculating grades for you this year. The government has today released the results of its consultation into how A level grades will be awarded this summer. Until we have read and considered the guidance, it is not possible to say exactly how grades will be determined. It is highly likely, however, that you will take a second set of assessments after the Easter break, in May. By running the March assessments from March 8th-15th, we will be able to resume face-to-face teaching with you before Easter and prepare you more effectively for the second set of assessments.

Finally, we know these are uncertain times for you. You have shown tremendous resilience during one of the most difficult times for young people in modern history, but we are confident that you will do well this year. We are, as always, here to support you and will do everything we can to help you get the grades that best reflect your ability and your work over the A level course.

Yours sincerely,

James Eve
Assistant Headteacher