



Tring School

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14 January 2021

Dear Year 11 and Year 13 Students, Parent / Carer

I apologise for the delay in writing to you. I have been waiting for further clarification and guidance regarding your exams.

As I mentioned last week, Ofqual is consulting on the fairest way possible to ensure that you receive the grades that you fully deserve. Nothing has been confirmed as yet, but they appear to be suggesting the following -

- **Grades will be awarded using teacher assessments** - your teachers can only give you a grade which reflects the standard of work which you submit.
- **A breadth of evidence should be used to inform teachers' judgement** - teachers will continue to use our electronic markbook system, where all of your past and future assessment grades are stored, along with any mock grades. All of this information will be used to calculate your final teacher assessment.
- **Assessment will be based on what the students have learnt** - this will not necessarily be the full breadth of the course. However, you are going to continue learning new content as the year progresses and you will be assessed on all that you have been taught for the duration of the course, remotely and face to face.
- **Externally set tasks and short papers may be provided by exam boards** - there is more detail required around the delivery and timing of this, however, it will be your teachers who mark this.
- **NEA work will continue** - all coursework will be internally marked and will contribute to your final grade.

As soon as these arrangements are confirmed, I will share with you how Tring School will implement the arrangements. This may be different from other schools.

Mock exams -

Well done for all of your hard work and preparation for these exams. You will all be completing the exams that you have been preparing for. Regrettably, this now has to be completed in a different format than you had anticipated. Due to the current levels of transmission, it would not be sensible to have you come into school to sit these exams together and, therefore, we have devised an alternative plan.

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The mock exams will be divided into two sittings, Paper 1 and Paper 2 (where applicable), which will be taken at slightly different times and hopefully under different controls. We are hopeful that students will be able to sit one paper remotely and then, at a slightly later date, a second paper in school.

Monday 25th January - Friday 29th January - All Year 13 and Year 11 students to complete remote mock examinations - Paper 1

- You will be issued with a new exam timetable with details of the content for each exam. (Please note this may be slightly different, as teachers may combine content from all areas of the course).
- You will sit one paper in each subject, in this sitting.
- Exams are to be completed under exam conditions, closed book without any notes.
- We have purchased increased monitoring software to ensure that exams are completed under timed, examination conditions. Any student who is caught contravening the rules will have their paper disqualified and will score 0 for this assessment.
- Class teachers will invigilate the completion of the exam at the specified time.
- Students allocated extra time will be provided with this.
- Students with Exam Access Arrangements will be provided with this support remotely.
- Students will only attend their exams during this period of time, lessons won't take place.

Monday 22nd February - Friday 26th February - All Year 13 and Year 11 students to complete mock examinations, in school - Paper 2 (only for subjects that have 2 papers)

This largely depends on the level of restriction that is placed on us at this time. With increased safety measures outlined in my last letter, I am hopeful that we will be able to have you on-site completing a paper. If this is not possible, we will switch to a remote completion.

Students will receive their timetable and details of the paper by the end of this week. Next week there will be further communication and guidance shared on how to access and complete your exam remotely.

BTEC Exams - January exams will continue to take place in school. However, we were notified yesterday that any exam scheduled for February or March has now been cancelled. Students will be awarded a teacher assessed grade for these components of the course.

I appreciate that this news will be disappointing to many of you, as it is slightly different from what you had prepared for. However, I know that you are all incredibly adaptable and resilient and will do what we all do best at Tring School and that is, 'pick ourselves up, dust ourselves down and move on.' You have all achieved so much, in so many different ways over the last 12 months and this will be one more new experience to add to that!

Once you have completed your mocks, results will be shared with you directly by the subject teachers to provide you with the immediate feedback required to help you prepare for future assessments. For Year 11, we have postponed our Mock Results Day. Once all papers have been completed and we understand how grades are calculated we will share with you your current grade.

As I shared last week, please do not spend time worrying about all of the things that are out of your control, instead concentrate on things that you can control and show us all what you are truly capable of!

Good Luck everyone!

Mrs Ambrose
Head of School