



Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you with an update on the Year 12 exams, timetabled for next week.

All of year 12 received an assembly today from Mr Bhambra. The focus was about happiness and very applicable to where yr 12 are currently at.

We know, from pupil voice, that they are struggling at the moment (current happiness is rated at 3.8 out of 5, the average is 4.2)

One section of the assembly focused on a key element of happiness being linked to 'having a purpose' and this is entirely relevant to their upcoming exams. Some in the year group are unhappy and worried about their exams, but in the context of improving their grades and their life choices in 18 months' time, they should be viewed as a real opportunity.

Some students have responded to the assembly and started to talk about the purpose of the exams in terms of improvement and less about 'testing'.

We know that very few people enjoy exams (very very few), but in the context of preparation for their finals in 2023, they are incredibly useful. I made some cheesy reference to MasterChef...the contestants repeatedly try their recipes at home before trying to cook the dish on the program!. I am determined that as part of our Covid catch-up we work on building their resilience and get them used to the process of learn, test, review, improve.

All the preparation needed for the assessment week will be set via Show My HomeWork and resourced via MS TEAMS. In order to allow you to support your child with preparation, below is an outline of the topics being assessed:

Subject	No.	Date	Length	Content	Date	Length	Content
Art	1	7/2	5 hours-one whole day	Outcome for 'buildings' project			
Biology	2	3/2	40 mins	Cell division diversity, differentiation and gas exchange	4/2	40 mins	Enzymes and biological molecules
Business Studies	22	2/2	55 mins	Demand, Supply, Supply & Demand, Price Elasticity, Income Elasticity	12A - 3/2 12B - 31/1	55 mins	Profit, profit margins, cash profit and working capital, liquidity and business failure
Chemistry	2	2/2	60 mins	Atoms, Bonds and Groups	4/2	60 mins	organic concepts: alkanes, alkenes, alcohols
Computer Science	1	1/2	50 mins	Data Representation, Boolean Algebra, Components of a Computer	4/2	50 mins	Web Design, Tracing and Designing Algorithms
Criminology	Controlled assessment being undertaken 13th & 14th January						
Economics	2	4/2	50 mins	Supply and Demand, Price, Income, Cross elasticity of demand	31/1	50 mins	Macro Economic Objectives
English Literature	2	4/2	60 mins	The Great Gatsby			
Further Maths	2	3/2	45 mins	Complex numbers, integration, conic sections, matrices, roots of polynomials, hyperbolic functions,	4/2	45 Mins	Vector equations of lines, polar coordinates, quadratic rational functions,



				summing series, complex numbers and geometry.			roots of polynomials, vectors
Geography	2	3/2	45 mins	Coastal Systems	31/1	45 Mins	Changing Spaces; Making Places
Politics	1	3/2	35 mins	Core ideologies - Liberalism or Socialism			
Graphics	1	8/2	5 hours-one whole day	Outcome for 'Festival re-brand' project			
History	2	31/1	60 mins	The economy of the GDR	2/2	60 mins	The problems of the Soviet state 1917-1928
Maths	2	1/2	55 mins	Algebra, Quadratics and Cubics, Inequalities and simultaneous equations, coordinate geometry, trigonometry, differentiation	2/2	45 mins	Algebra, Quadratics and Cubics, Inequalities and simultaneous equations, coordinate geometry, trigonometry, differentiation
Media	2	31/1	55 mins	Representation in Music Video (set text) and Audio-Visual Advertising (unseen)	1/2	45 mins	Media Language in Film Posters (unseen)
PE	1	31/1	55 minutes	Sport and Society & The role of Technology in Sport			
Physics	1	1/2	60 mins	Forces, work, energy and power	4/2	60 mins	Electrical circuits
Psychology	1	4/2	60 mins	Memory and Social Influence			
Sociology 12A	1	1/2	60 mins	Families and relationship			
Sociology 12E	1	3/2	60 mins	Socialisation, culture and identity			

The year 12 parents evening is calendared for Thursday 3rd March. This will be the ideal time to discuss any queries you may have around the assessment outcomes and progress through the key stage 5 course.

If you are concerned about a specific subject, please contact that teacher directly. If you are concerned that your child is not coping in the build up to the exams, we have support mechanisms in place. Please contact your child's tutor as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely,

P Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher)



FAQ's

Q) Can/should my child prepare for the assessments?

- A) They should follow the advice/guidance/instructions from their teachers. Use the resources and tasks they have set. They should do as much preparation as the teachers advise them to do

Q) What if my child does badly?

- A) Assessments aren't about doing 'badly'. They tell your child, you and the school the strengths and areas for development. They inform us as to next steps advice.

Q) What happens with the results?

- A) Schools use the information to help us plan better lessons. The outcome of the assessments will also be reported home in the monitoring cycle.

Q) My child can't access SMHW or TEAMS, what should they do?

- a) Ask their tutor for help!! As a matter of urgency.