



BEVERLEY HIGH SCHOOL



Headteacher: Ms Sharon Japp, BA, MEd, NPQH

Norwood, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 9EX
Tel: (01482) 881658

Email: office@beverleyhigh.net
Website: www.beverleyhigh.net

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Dear Parent/ Carer

Due to the inevitable disruptions to the normal procedures in school this year there have been a number of changes to reporting, parents' evenings and Year 11 mock exams. The following sets out our current intentions in each area.

Reporting

Reports will continue to be sent home via Edulink at the same times as previous years. For Years 7,8 & 9 there are three reports. These are collated just before the end of term and sent as soon as is practicable. They will contain Attitude towards Learning grades (AtL), Independent Learning (IL) grades and progress in each Key Concept that is being covered in the curriculum for that subject. A baseline indicator of performance is provided from the Year 7 CAT test. This is not a target but can be useful as a comparison.

For Year 10 there are two reports. One in January and the second in early May. They will contain AtL grades and IL grades and a grade range to indicate predicted final GCSE performance. A range is more realistic than an individual grade and emphasises that results can vary, the most influential factor in general being attitude towards learning.

For Year 11 there are two reports. The first is in November and the second in March. They will contain AtL grades and IL grades and a grade range to indicate the predicted final GCSE performance.

Parents' Evenings

Year 13 Parents' Evening has taken place using an online system. We are now evaluating whether this would be a suitable approach for some other year groups. The other Parents' Evenings have been delayed until later in the year in order that we can ensure a reliable system for communication and allow more time to gather meaningful information now that we cannot circulate freely with pupils in the classroom. We will inform you of the dates in the new year and the system for delivery.

At Key Stage 3 and Year 10 the format will involve a discussion with the form tutor. The focus will be on ensuring that parents are confident in interpreting the report and AtLs, Tutors will also focus on general individual wellbeing. This will be a short and focussed meeting but will have the advantage of being less intense than a full parents' evening with numerous appointments.

At Year 11 and Key Stage 5 we are looking at subject specific meetings. We would like to provide feedback from all the individual teachers to best aid pupil progress through their examinable courses. Details will be announced nearer the time. The Year 11 date will be in late March.



Year 11 Mock Exams

Earlier this term we decided to push back mock exams from their usual place in November in order that teachers could focus on teaching content and helping students to catch up after five months out of school. One of the purposes of mock exams is to help prepare students for the real examinations by mirroring the routines/procedures. It is clear that because of the pandemic Year 11 mock examinations will not be able to take place during the winter months in their usual format. The congregation of large numbers of pupils and the necessary examination staff is too great a risk to COVID safety.

Therefore, all mock examinations at Beverley High School will take place this year during normal timetabled lessons. We are considering options that will balance simulating the exam experience and reducing unnecessary pressure on students after a very uncertain period so far this year. The recent news that exam boards will announce in advance which topics are to be examined in the summer and other potential adaptations for this cohort has caused us to delay releasing the dates for the mocks. Ofqual are due to announce the arrangements in January and we will schedule mock examinations in line with this guidance and inform you as swiftly as possible. These announcements coupled with the decisions of the Welsh and Scottish governments over the last few weeks with regard to GCSEs have undoubtedly had an unsettling effect on Year 11 students in England. If your child is particularly anxious please contact the Wellbeing team. Uncertainty is something we are all having to deal with at present.

From a health and safety perspective there will be systems in place to reduce the risk of COVID. Test papers will be quarantined for 48 hours prior to the tests. Staff will not touch the papers and only pupils in the same group will touch/ distribute papers.

Following the Mocks the papers will be reviewed with pupils. They will then be retained in school as evidence to support centre assessed grades should they be required. These are not the only evidence used and context and other assessment will be considered when assessing.

Please be advised that pupils who require readers will be using an electronic reader on a laptop and headphones. Any other official exam concessions will be arranged on an individual basis. There can be no provision for small group, quiet rooms or other TA assistance other than official concessions.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in allowing us time to set up new systems. As you will appreciate, arrangements may change as circumstances dictate. We will keep you informed as soon as we are able to should this be necessary. You will receive more specific details as events draw near.

Kind regards

P Cork

Peter Cork
Assistant Headteacher

