



DARRICK WOOD SCHOOL

RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | HONESTY

Thursday, 1st April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Following on from Dr Airey's email this afternoon please find, attached, a timetable for on-going assessment for Years 11 and 13 after the Easter break. We continually strive to ensure that students have the very best opportunities to succeed, and have planned to continue the assessments in the most objective and fairest way possible. On first look, the timetable may appear a little daunting, but once students identify where and when they will be assessed, ignoring those subjects they do not study, hopefully you will be assured that the number of assessment opportunities is manageable. To aid this I recommend time being spent over Easter mapping out how they can best prepare for these assessments so that no one assessment is prioritised over another and they optimise their chances of success.

Whilst we would want all students to try their very best in these assessments, they should maintain perspective and try to avoid unhelpful stress. They need a break over Easter but also to prepare well for weeks ahead. Getting the right balance may require your guidance. The results from these assessments will be used to support teachers' judgments, but will not be the only sources of evidence that teachers will rely on. These assessments will form at least part of the evidence base used by teachers to provide exam boards with Teacher Assessed Grades this summer. It is important, therefore, that students continue to work hard in lessons before and after these assessments. Students with additional time requirements will be applied, as will access arrangements for students where applicable.

I also apologise for this week's timetable, which had an initial error on it. An amended version was shared with students and placed on to the School website as soon as this came to light last Friday evening.

Whilst we aim to give as much clarity and certainty for everyone involved in this process, please also be aware that due to circumstances outside of our control and the uncertainty surrounding current situation with COVID-19, we may have to alter some of these plans. We will work to ensure that all students have the best possible opportunities to achieve their own best. A whole-school policy will be finalised and released at the beginning of next term, following guidance which has recently been released from the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) at the end of last week. A summary for students and parents is available [here](#).

Please remind your child that I have uploaded a video explaining the process on to Microsoft Stream, the link to which is in their School email inbox and was sent previously.

I hope that you find the attached timetable helpful and that it can be used by students to give further structure to their on-going studies.

Yours sincerely

Mr Eynon
Deputy Head Teacher