

Dear Students, Carers and Parents,

Thank you for your understanding at this very unusual time as we prepare for the final assessments as part of your son's evidence for the awarding of grades by the examination boards this summer.

As we approach your son's May assessments, I would like to inform you of some forthcoming key dates and activities.

Year 11 and Year 13 Students

GCSE final assessments commence on Tuesday 04 May 2021.

A level final assessments commence on Monday 10 May 2021.

Staff will continue to be available in lessons to provide a quiet independent revision area and may also support with student-initiated questions up to and including Friday 28 May.

Throughout this period students shall be free to go straight home after the last assessment of the day if they wish; alternatively, they may do some quiet and supervised revision in their 'normal' timetabled lesson.

Throughout this period students only need to arrive, and be in school for their assessments, if they only have an assessment in the afternoon then they may attend in the afternoon and revise at home in the morning; alternatively, they may do some quiet and supervised revision in their 'normal' timetabled lesson.

If students do not have an assessment on a day, then they may stay at home or they may wish to come into school for their normal timetable.

There may be some students who are required to follow an individualised timetable during this period if we still have concerns regarding their effort and attainment.

Most assessments will have been completed by Friday 21 May; however, some continue into the week ending Friday 28 May and this will also be used as a 'mop-up' opportunity if there are extenuating circumstances surrounding the assessment period.

Students have been reminded that we expect a high standard of conduct and co-operation in the assessment period. Students who disrupt the learning environment or behave in a way not befitting this educational establishment risk compromising their references. The vast majority of our students do not need such stark reminders of our expectations.

Below are a few reminders about procedures for the assessments.

- Students are required to meet the school rules in terms of dress and appearance. Failure to comply with this could result in being refused entry to the assessment room.
- Students have all been given an assessment timetable which they have been asked to check carefully. Would you please ensure that they have done this and know the exact dates and times of all their assessments.
- Mobile phones, or any web enabled watches or other devices, will not be permitted in the assessment room. If students have these banned items, their assessments will be disqualified. Please ensure that your son does not carry a mobile phone or any other

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communication device into the assessment room. We recommend that they are left at home on the day of an assessment as the School accepts no responsibility should they be lost or stolen, even if handed in at the start of the exam.

- Students are required to write in black ball point pen and not gel pen. Pencil cases should be clear.
- If your son is ill or has a problem which prevents him from taking an assessment or that will result in his late arrival for a paper, please telephone the school reception and let <u>Miss C</u> <u>Nauyokas</u> (Examinations Officer) know at the earliest opportunity.
- If you feel that your son has grounds for special arrangements or special consideration for an examination, and you have not already told the School, please let Miss C Nauyokas know in writing as soon as possible. Medical evidence may be required in such circumstances.

Week beginning 07 June for Year 11

From the week beginning 07 June, in preparation for the Induction Programme, your son should complete the Personal Growth and Wellbeing and the Personal Development course from the Department for Education: <u>https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/find-a-course/the-skills-toolkit</u> prior to the Induction programme.

These courses are also very useful for Year 13.

Year 12 Induction Programme

All students who are intending on returning to Sixth Form must attend the Year 12 Induction Programme running between Wednesday 7 July – Friday 9 July. This will provide a strong flavour of A level teaching and many subjects will both introduce and start the course. Induction exists for the following reasons:

- A level courses are demanding and the Induction Programme will help prepare your son for the rigours of A level study. Some teachers will provide reading and other work to complete over the holidays which will facilitate a strong start to the course next year.
- Some skills essential for A level success are not required at GCSE. Study at Advanced Level requires a balanced combination of communication, problem solving, analytical and evaluative skills. No matter how convincingly a student can process material at GCSE level, they will fall short of the standard required at A level if they cannot assess evidence, identify arguments, and communicate their ideas in a coherent and lucid manner. Moreover, A levels make much higher demands of independent study, note making, learning and understanding.

The Induction Programme will take place in the School Hall, the Sixth Form Centre and in the classrooms where Year 13 lessons would normally be taught. Students will attend bridging sessions in each of their chosen subjects. In addition, they will be guided on the ethos of the Sixth Form and the standards expected. In the event of your son participating in the NCS scheme; Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Camp or if he is required to miss one of the days to attend another Post-16 Open Day, please provide the relevant information to <u>Mrs J Parker</u>, who is administering our Post-16 Admissions.

Results Days

The GCSE results day is Thursday 12 August 2021.



The A level results day is Tuesday 10 August 2021.

Results on both days will be available to collect from 9.00am in the Old School. Results cannot be given over the telephone or emailed to individuals. If students are unable to collect their results in person, they should complete a form requesting that they are collected by a nominated person or posted home. This form can be found on the exam section of the school website. In addition, any student who wishes to have his results forwarded in the post must provide a stamped addressed envelope. All requests should be made to <u>Miss C Nauyokas</u> (Examinations Officer) before the last day of this half-term. It is hoped that all students wishing to return to the Sixth Form will achieve the minimum entry requirements published on the School's Website: <u>The King's School Grantham - Entry to the Sixth Form (Year 12</u>), but it would be sensible for those not on course for this to have a safety-net option. Senior staff will be available on Results Day to discuss options in light of their results.

I would urge all students to work extremely hard for their assessments to give themselves the very best chance. May I also thank you all for your support over the last two years and your role in the preparation of our students for their assessments.

Returning books and other materials.

Students in Year 11 who are not returning for Sixth Form must make arrangements to return all their text books to the Sixth Form Centre during the week of 24 May. Students anticipating returning for Sixth Form must return their books on the first day of the Induction Programme.

Students in Year 13 must make arrangements to return all their books to the Sixth Form Centre during the week of 24 May.

Thank you all again for your amazing efforts and understanding and the very best of luck.

Yours sincerely

Simon Pickett Head Master