

Haydon School



ACA/jmp/Formal Assessments – Year 13
18 March 2021

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Headteacher:
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Dear Parents /Carers

RE: Arrangements for Formal Assessments after the Easter Holiday – Year 13

I am writing to inform you of the arrangements for the formal assessments which were referred to in the letter sent out on 5 March 2021.

After a number of meetings with Student Voice in Year 11 and Year 13 and also with staff we have decided that we will hold two formal assessment windows where students will undertake a maximum of two papers per subject. After consulting with Public Health England we have made the decision to hold the assessments in the school's normal examination venues, within year bubbles, and not in classrooms. This will allow students the opportunity to experience the formal assessment in an 'examination' venue, supporting them to prepare for the next stage of their studies and also allow us to conduct formal assessments in subjects at the same time, which will ensure fairness, and also ensure access arrangements can be provided. Details of the timing of individual assessments can be found on the attached timetable.

I also want to take this opportunity to assure you that the formal assessments will only test students on topics that will reflect the parts of the course which have been covered and that Curriculum Leaders believe will give students the best opportunity to excel. Staff have been asked to work with students in lessons to prepare them for these assessments, including informing them of the content to be assessed.

To ensure that no students are disadvantaged we are marking the formal assessments 'blind'. This means that students will not put their name on the paper but only their candidate number, which will be provided to them at the start of each assessment. Their paper will also not necessarily be marked by their class teacher. The results from these formal assessments will not be shared with students as they are subject to external moderation from the examination boards.

We are still waiting for guidance from the examination boards regarding how Teacher's Assessed Grades are to be formulated. However, I can assure you that these formal assessments will only form part of the evidence used, we will also consider previous work produced by students. Once we receive the full guidance, staff will be working as departments to award grades and all results will be moderated so that grades are given proper oversight.



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Year 13 Arrangements

- Study leave will be 21-30 April. This means students will only be required on site for exams during this period. Lessons and some practical subject's assessments will take place on 19 and 20 April.
- Assessments will take place in St Nick's Gym.
- Please see the attached Year 13 Formal Assessments 2021 Expectations document.

Thank you for all your understanding and for everything you are doing to support the education of your son/daughter.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Martin
Assistant Headteacher