



Ramsey Grammar School
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Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Assessments in place of Examinations 2020-21

Dear all

We appreciate that there is much talk in the media about what is happening with regard to the replacement assessments for exams this summer. Rest assured that we are working hard to apply all of the guidance and information which the exam boards are issuing, however, most of it is coming out this week and next. Each board is also slightly different and each subject specification will be different too, so there is a lot to think about and plan for. Along with the other Island secondary schools we are currently formulating a detailed plan and we will of course share it with you as soon as we possibly can. This, however, is likely to be at the start of next term. In the meantime, as we keep reiterating, what students need to focus on is consolidating their understanding and knowledge of what they have studied so far and to continue with any new work that their teachers are asking them to complete.

Although, perhaps unseen, in the background, each subject team leader is already working with their team on their assessment plans but in order to complete this we have to wait until we get all the information from all the boards. The Leadership Group will then make sure the plans meet the regulatory requirements and also look to make sure that the assessments are fair and will be timetabled so that they are manageable for our students. We can then share with you what assessments will be used and when any additional ones need to be taken. It is complicated and it will take us until the start of next term to get this done but we will make sure that we get it right.

We still do not know what the plans are for coming out of lockdown next term. Secondary Heads have stressed to DESC that should we not all be back at school, students in Years 11 and 13 should be prioritised to return first. This will also apply to any Y12 students who need to be entered for assessments this year. It is still unclear whether or not Teacher Assessed Grades for Cambridge assessments will count towards the full A level qualification or whether it would be better to wait until November for students to sit AS levels. This is likely to be different for different subjects,

Take a bit of a break as a family over Easter around your child's continuing consolidation of understanding and knowledge and let's hope that we soon see a positive trend in the data which may allow us to exit this current state of lockdown.

We wish you good health and appreciate your patience whilst we act on emerging exam board guidance.

Mr Will Wood
(Assistant Headteacher)