

27 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 12 Curriculum, Assessment and Examinations

We hope that your child has made a positive return to school and that they are enjoying the Sixth Form experience. We are writing to remind you of some of the assessment requirements for the A Level courses; share important information with regard to access arrangements for public examinations and highlight the timings of Year 12 school examinations and our reporting arrangements.

In **November**, you will receive an **early Attitude to Learning (AtL) summary** that will indicate how well your child has embarked upon their A Level studies.

Year 12 Consultation Evening on Tuesday 14 January 2025 will provide an opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers, who will offer some valuable advice about how to engage with the challenge of A Level study. This consultation evening will take place in school.

In **late March 2025** you will receive a gradesheet, which will include Forecast and Attitude to Learning (AtL) grades. Forecast grades are based on what teachers believe a student is most likely to achieve at the end of the course. Please note, these are not necessarily the same as UCAS reference predicted grades. Mrs Zanetti, Careers Advisor and UCAS & Post 18 Lead, will provide further information about the UCAS process once the system goes live for the 2025 entrance cycle.

Year 12 school examinations are scheduled to take place between Monday 28 April to Friday 9 May 2025. In **June 2025** you will receive a pastoral report, along with updated teacher forecasts, AtL grades and UCAS gradings.

Non-Examination Assessment (NEA), more commonly referred to as coursework, forms part of the overall assessment in many subjects in the Sixth Form. In order to help our students achieve their full potential, all requests for absence during periods of coursework and school examinations will be refused, except in the most exceptional of cases. The NEA calendar for the A Level courses is available on the school website (*under Parents, Letters to Parents, GCSE & A Level Information and Letters*).

We would also like to draw your attention to the following documents, all of which are available on the school website:

- 'Information for Candidates' documents that are distributed by JCQ on behalf of the examination boards, explaining the regulations with regard to examinations, non-examination assessment and social media
- JCQ 'Information for Students – Privacy Policy'
- The school's non-examination assessment policy
- The school's 'Examination Policy'
- The school's 'Accessibility policy in relation to examination'

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For reference, the examination boards used at Parmiter's are listed below.

Examination Board	Subjects
AQA	Biology, Drama & Theatre, Design & Technology, English Literature, Economics, French, German, PE, Physics, Psychology, Music, Spanish, Sociology, Philosophy
OCR	Chemistry, Computer Science
Edexcel	Art, Business, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, Mathematics, Politics

Access arrangements for public examinations are put in place to allow students with special educational needs, a physical disability, a long-term medical condition, a psychological condition or temporary injury to access the examination or assessment. Examples of access arrangements may include a modified examination paper, extra time, supervised rest breaks or a live voice in a listening examination. In general, these must be applied for and agreed well in advance of an assessment. If you believe that the school should be applying for access arrangements on behalf of your child and **we are not currently aware** of any special educational needs, physical disabilities, long-term medical or psychological conditions, please contact Curriculum Support as a matter of urgency (sendept@parmiters.herts.sch.uk).

Homework

Sixth Form students are expected to manage their own time outside of lessons. Students have timetabled study periods where they are expected to complete independent study and work set by their teachers. They should bring their own devices (laptops, tablets, etc.) to help facilitate this, as computers are not available in all study spaces.

This letter, and the documents we refer to, are available on the school website. We would encourage you to familiarise yourselves with the following areas on the website:

- *Parents - Letters to Parents and Carers - GCSE & A Level Exam Information and Letters (including JCQ documents)*
- *Parents - Letters to Parents and Carers - Curriculum, Homework, Assessment & School Exams*
- *About us - Policies*

Thank you for taking the time to read this important information.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Baker / Mr B Hughes
Deputy Headteachers



Mr T Henson
Head of Sixth Form / Assistant Headteacher