



# PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

September 2021

Dear Year 13 Parent/Carer

## Year 13 Curriculum, Assessment & Examinations

We hope that your son/daughter has made a positive return to school and that s/he is looking forward to a fulfilling final year at school. We are writing to remind you of some of the assessment requirements of the A Level courses, share important information with regard to access arrangements for public examinations and highlight the timings of Year 13 trial examinations, Parents' Evening and reporting arrangements.

As you may be aware, schools are still awaiting confirmation from Ofqual and the Department for Education on changes to the assessment of A Levels in Summer 2022. We hope to have full details of any changes to the content and/or the form of assessment at subject level by the end of the month. Once available, we will let you know the necessary information. We also do not yet have confirmed dates for public examination dates or results days for 2022; once available we will let you know.

At this time, we are working on the assumption that school examinations and Parents' Evenings will go ahead as planned. However, changes may need to be made as the year progresses, including possible changes to the Assessment & Reporting calendar(s), as necessary. In the event that next year's public examinations are cancelled and the school is asked to award grades, it should not be assumed that these will be the same as any forecast or UCAS grades reported during the year.

The online **Year 13 Parents' Evening, on Tuesday 2 November**, will provide an opportunity for you and your son's/daughter's teachers to discuss his/her progress to date and the challenges that lie ahead. At the end of this term you will receive a progress update gradesheet, which will contain Attitude to Learning grades (AtL) and teacher forecasts.

Some subjects will be asking students to complete examination practice during lessons in the second half of the Autumn Term. We are mindful that this cohort has not had the full experience of public examinations and so wish to provide them with as many opportunities as we can.

**Year 13 trial examinations** will take place between **Monday 31 January and Thursday 10 February 2022**. We hope that this timing will allow students, and families, to enjoy the half-term break and that students will return to school with renewed focus and energy.

In **late March 2022** you will receive subject and pastoral reports for your son/daughter, which will include the trial examination results, updated forecast and AtL grades.

**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 to achieve their full potential, all requests for absence during periods of coursework will be refused, except in the most exceptional of cases. All Year 13 students will be reminded of the regulations with regard to non-examination assessment.

The following documents, which may be of interest to you, are also available via the school website (*under Parents, then Curriculum, Homework, Assessment & Exams*):

- ‘Information for Candidates’ documents that are distributed by JCQ on behalf of the examination boards, explaining the regulations with regard to written examinations and non-examination assessment.
- JCQ ‘Information for Candidate – Privacy Notice’.

The following policies may also be of interest (*under Parents, then Policies*):

- Non-examination Assessment policy
- Public Examination’ policy
- Internal Appeals policy
- Accessibility policy in relation to examinations.

**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 son/daughter and **we are not currently aware** of any special educational needs, physical disabilities, long-term medical or psychological conditions, please contact Mrs van Rooij, the school SENCO, immediately by letter or email ([j.wood@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:j.wood@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 are encouraged to bring their own devices (laptops, tablets, etc.) to help facilitate, as computers are not available in all the study spaces.

We thank you for taking the time to read this important information.

Yours sincerely



Ms G Absalom  
Assistant Headteacher