



PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

12 October 2022

Dear Year 11 & Year 13 Students and their Parents/Carers

NEA & Examinations Update for Years 11 & 13

Over the course of this academic year there will be much information we need to share about GCSE and A Level examinations. We will share this information via email, as well as adding all emails/letters to the school website under the relevant year group in [Parents - Letters to Parents](#). This section of the school website also includes a section with documents from JCQ, the body that oversees the examination and assessment process in England, about examination regulations.

NEA (Non-examined assessment)

The majority of students in Years 11 & 13 will have NEA as part of their GCSE or A Level courses. NEA, more commonly known as coursework, covers any part of a course that isn't a written examination the students will sit in May/June 2023. As well as the more 'obvious' coursework units students are working on, this therefore also covers elements such as the speaking & listening assessment that is part of the GCSE English Language course and the A Level Science practical endorsements that are part of the A Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics courses.

On 29 September, Year 11 & 13 students attended an assembly where I explained the regulations associated with NEA. The presentation has been shared with students by Ms Hall (Year 11) and Mrs Smith (Year 13). However, the key information is given in this JCQ document '[Information for candidates - Non-examination assessments](#)'.

You may also be interested in looking at the NEA calendars that show when students will be working on their NEA and the deadlines. These are saved under the relevant year group in [Parents - Letters to Parents](#).

Ofqual statement around examinations in 2023

You may have seen the headlines on 29 September following Ofqual's statement about examinations in 2023. If you wish to read the full statement it is available [here](#). Some key points that the government, the exams regulator Ofqual and the exam boards have now confirmed are:

- At a national level, the grades awarded in Summer 2023 will be in line with the grades awarded in Summer 2019. Summer 2022 was a transition year for grading, and so students and parents/carers need to be aware that the grade boundaries in 2023 may need to be 'harsher' in order to achieve the national grading profile Ofqual are seeking.
- Ofqual have confirmed that in Summer 2023 there will be a safety net to ensure that, nationally, grades are not lower than they were in Summer 2019.
- Extended formula sheets will again be provided in the GCSE Maths, Physics and Combined Sciences exams to support students (this was introduced for exams in Summer 2022 and will continue for Summer 2023).

- Advanced information about where to focus revision, which was provided in 2022, will **not** be provided this year. Students will need to learn and revise the whole specification as normal. Any topic could come up in the exam.
- In Summer 2022, you may be aware that some subjects saw a reduction in content (ie we were not required to teach some topics/texts on the specification). This has **not** been continued for Summer 2023 and students will cover all topics/texts on the specification and may be examined on any part of the specification.

Trial examinations, November assessments (Year 13) and March assessments (Year 11)

As you will already be aware from Ms Absalom's letters at the start of year, the dates of these assessment windows have been set. Student absence during these dates will not be authorised and it should not be assumed that any assessments missed will be rearranged. More information will be provided ahead of each assessment window. As a reminder:

Year 11 trial examinations: Monday 5 December - Friday 16 December 2022.

Year 11 March assessments: Monday 6 March - Friday 31 March 2023 (specific dates of assessments will be communicated).

Year 13 November assessments: Monday 7 November - Friday 25 November 2022 (specific dates of assessments will be communicated).

Year 13 trial examinations: Monday 30 January - Thursday 9 February 2023.

Kind regards



Mrs E Berks
Deputy Headteacher