

Aspiration
Respect
Endeavour

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Roding Valley
HIGH SCHOOL

Friday 5th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 13 Important Information: Support and Assessment Road Map

We trust that you are all keeping well and thank you for your continued support during this difficult period. We appreciate how hard it is for the students to remain motivated whilst being concerned over their summer grades. All initial feedback is that the Year 11s have been excellent and really working hard at home. They have shown great resilience and we are all very proud of their conduct and effort. It is important that we all continue to reassure them that we will do everything that we can to ensure that they are awarded fair grades, which will provide them with the access to their appropriate pathway. This may be university, employment or an apprenticeship.

As we approach the end of this half term, the purpose of this letter is to highlight a number of important issues and support mechanisms that we would like to bring to your attention.

Assessment Roadmap

The DFE consultation on how grades will be awarded has not yet been finalised. Despite that, the one golden thread is that the grades awarded will have to be based on sound evidence.

It will be essential to ensure that we can evidence not only their grade but also that they did not have any outside support when providing work that we will evaluate as part of awarding a grade.

We are hopeful that students in the exam groups will be back in school at some date after the 8th March but before the Easter holiday. This is obviously not yet finalised by the government but we want to give advance notice of our initial plans. Should schools not reopen, or exam groups brought back, then we will put in alternative plans to assess the students.

Students will sit a set of Pre Public Exams (PPEs) starting in week beginning **22nd March 2021**. The PPEs will continue after the Easter holiday. These exams will be comprehensive and closely mimic an actual exam but will be bespoke to each subject area. This should allow students to clearly demonstrate their understanding of a subject to date. Students will receive detailed areas of revision, the structure of the paper and extensive support in advance of these PPEs.

Once the outcomes of the consultation are received, there could also be a further Exam-board supplied paper/papers in late May. This will however be decided once the outcome of the consultation is known. We will keep you informed.

It was fortuitous that we did an early PPE in Year 11 as this provides a baseline and will aid in evaluating a student's progress over time. We obviously also have a full assessment profile of each student over time from the start of their learning journey with us.



The principle in awarding grades is that students will be awarded the highest possible grade that can clearly be evidenced against a recognised standard.

We will ensure that each subject makes it very clear to students which future pieces of work may be considered as part of the assessment roadmap that we will share with you, once the consultation is published. Work that is conducted under supervision or with recognised exam criteria could be used as evidence. This is certainly not to raise anxiety but needs to be considered by students when completing tasks. All written subjects can use google to check for plagiarism, which will mean that remote work could be included, even if ultimately given a lower weighting.

To reiterate, we will share with the students an assessment roadmap for every subject once the consultation is complete. This will clearly show the intended evidence base for the awarding of the teacher assessed grades.

Please note all the following additional support that we will be offering your child to support in this process:

Pause and Reflect Week

A regular part of our normal teaching practice would be to stop at certain stages and reflect on what has been taught and judge the understanding that students have gained.

The week beginning 22nd February, subjects will stop teaching new content and reflect on the content that has been taught this academic year and especially during the lockdown period. Staff will use the lesson time to recap key topics but will also do that by using a variety of our RVHS revision techniques that will support in preparing for any future assessments.

It is essential that students take the time and try a variety of these techniques, and in the end decide which ones suit their learning style best. Please see the school [website](#) for details of our RVHS revision techniques.

Becoming independent learners that possess a variety of skills to support their learning are key to their long-term success.

There will also be a number of parent forums during that week to ensure that parents are aware how they can support their child.

This week will be followed by an Assessment Week, where students will be assessed in a number of subjects. Please note that all live lessons will still take place, as normal, but that the content of these live lessons will be delivered around our pause and reflect focus.

Parent Forums

We recognise that remote learning has been a difficult process for many students and parents. To help support this, we are holding a series of 'Parent forums' on **Tuesday 23rd February between 5:00pm - 6.30pm.**

The parent forums will be on the topics below and will be carried out via Google Meet (the function that your child uses to access their live lessons). This forum will be carried out live. There will be an opportunity to ask questions via the Google Meet chat box- and the host will endeavour to answer as many questions that arise as possible. We please ask that you arrive in the Google Meet with microphones and cameras off.

- 1. Support with self-directed assignments 5:00pm** (20 minutes)
- 2. Preparation for Assessment Week + RVHS Revision Techniques – 5:20pm**

3. **Support with Remote Learning during Live Lessons (Raising engagement) - 5:40pm**
4. **Online Safety: Modern Day Risks – 6:00pm**
5. **SEND Parent Support with our SENDco - 5:00pm. This runs alongside the other sessions. This session is by invitation only.**

We will send the individual **Google Meet links** for each of the above calls. You can decide which topics are applicable to you and you do not need to attend all of the sessions. We look forward to welcoming lots of our parents to these forums.

Assessment Week

The week beginning 1st March 2021 will be an Assessment Week, each subject area will share their assessment schedule with their students. The format of assessments will vary between subjects but will be shared with students during the **Pause and Reflect Week**. The focus of the assessment will mostly be on content taught during the lockdown period but may contain some topics that were taught earlier in the academic year.

This assessment is essential as it will play a significant role in shaping our teaching for the remainder of the course.

It is essential that every student has access to a computer/ laptop to be able to complete this assessment. Please contact the Year Progress Leader if your child does not have access to their own computer/ laptop.

Video on how to access live worksheets (helpful for when completing live assessments):

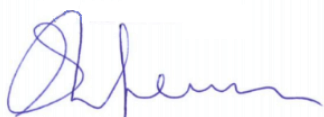
During your assessment week, and potentially during lots of other live lessons, your child will be asked to access a number of 'live worksheets' to complete their assessment in 'real time'. This allows the teacher to see what the students are doing and give them feedback straight away. Some students have struggled during the live lessons to access these worksheets. There is a helpful [video](#) to help you on this, should you need it.

Stationary and Exercise Books.

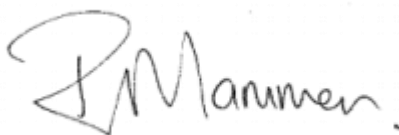
There is a [flyer](#) that has been emailed to all students regarding purchasing stationery/ exercise books from our school stationery shop. Our stationary & exercise book bundles are all available to order and pay for via Parent Pay. Please note- we acknowledge that we wouldn't normally charge for exercise books; the prices that you see for packages that include exercise books do not incur a charge for these items- they only have a charge applied for postage, packaging and admin.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this unprecedented time.

Yours faithfully



Mrs. S Jenner
Headteacher



Mr. R Mammen
Deputy Headteacher