The Matthew Arnold School

26th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 11 update - Easter revision, internal assessments and teacher-assessed grades

In January, we wrote to you explaining that students would be given teacher-assessed grades for their GCSE results. One outcome of the government's consultation is that exam boards will provide **mini-assessments**, which schools can use to provide part of their portfolio of evidence. They are to be taken during class time and marked by teachers using mark schemes provided by the boards.

Most schools have decided to use these mini-assessments, and as part of the Spelthorne schools' group and the BET we will do likewise. The timeline around internal assessments is as follows:

Week commencing	Focus
29th March	In-school lessons
5th April	Easter break: revision week via Teams (6th-9th April)
12th April	Easter break
19th April	In-school lessons and revision
26th April	Internal assessments
3rd May	Internal assessments
10th May	Internal assessments
17th May	Marking, moderation and catch-ups
24th May	Marking, moderation and catch-ups

The key message delivered to students, and we would like you to reiterate it, is that these mini assessments are not another set of mocks, nor are they GCSE exams. They are simply a test completed during their lesson time, which can be used as further evidence alongside their classwork, homework, remote learning, mocks and any coursework where applicable, to award the students the grade that they truly deserve. Students who qualify for access arrangements in tests will have these provided.

Easter revision sessions will start on Tuesday 6thApril, delivered via Microsoft Teams. Each subject has a 90-minute session that will be focused on preparing the students for the internal assessments. We urge students to use the second week of the Easter holidays to relax. We have a busy half term ahead of us.

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Date	Time	Subject
Tuesday 06/04/2021	9.00am-10.30am	Science
	11.00am-12.30pm	History
	13.30pm-15.00pm	Geography
Wednesday 07/04/2021	9.00am-10.30am	Maths
	11.00am-12.30pm	English
	13.30pm-15.00pm	MFL
Thursday 08/04/2021	9.00am-10.30am	HSN
	11.00am-12.30pm	Business
	13.30pm-15.00pm	Drama
Friday 09/04/2021	9.00am-10.30am	Computing
	11.00am-12.30pm	DT
	13.30pm-15.00pm	Drama

The school still needs to enter students for GCSE awards. Students have received a **statement of entry**. Please check with them that they are entered for the correct subjects and at the correct tier where this applies. Candidates are entered under the name format of first name + middle name + (legal) surname and this is how it will show on certificates. Any amendments should be clearly noted by email to the Exams Officer at kjuliff@matthew-arnold.surrey.sch.uk. The deadline for return is **Tuesday 30th March.**

You will also be wondering about the final leaving date for students. Again, we are working very closely with local schools to provide parity and will be in touch as soon as we have further details. As always, we hope you are all remaining safe and well, and that this information has been helpful. If you have any questions on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Yours sincerely

Kirsteen Moore   Rob Lawrence
Head of Year 11   Assistant Headteacher

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