

# Alderbrook School

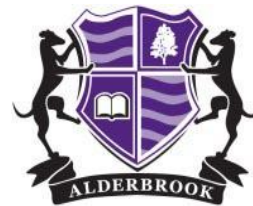
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5 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

On January 19<sup>th</sup> I wrote to all Year 11 and 13 students to outline the key proposals for assessment this summer, as laid out in the Ofqual Consultation. The consultation has now concluded and we await the outcome; we are led to believe that the outcome will not be published until towards the end of February.

As I stated in that letter, it is crucial that students continue to focus on attending their lessons remotely and completing all work set. We now want to give some clarity around what will happen in the coming weeks. Year 11s have missed their scheduled mock exams, and Year 13 were due to have mocks immediately after half term; given the change to assessment this summer, we will not be running these mock exams and we will not be rearranging them. Having said this, it is crucial that we continue to assess students. The more information we can collate on how students are achieving and progressing, the more accurately we will be able to assess what students have learnt when we assign grades. The consultation outlined that there still may be some externally-set assessments that students are required to take this summer, so it is crucial that we continue to support students in preparing for these.

Therefore we are proposing that students will sit some mini-assessments in the following weeks:

- Year 11: Week Beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February
- Year 13: Week Beginning 1<sup>st</sup> March

These assessments will fall in normal timetabled lessons and can be completed remotely. The assessments will be no more than 40 minutes long (to ensure that these can be completed in lessons, allowing time for students to complete these who are eligible for access arrangements, and allowing time for students to submit these to their teachers).

## What these assessments are:

- Part of a range of information that we will continue to collect between now and the summer.
- An opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learnt.
- An opportunity for students to practise the skills required in exams and assessments.
- An incentive for students to continue to engage in remote learning.

## What these assessments are not:

- A mock exam
- A full exam paper
- A single assessment that will determine a grade in the summer.

We intend to offer students more opportunities to complete assessments next half term and into the summer term, and subjects will communicate their plans with students moving forward. I will also write to all parents and students once the consultation outcome on assessment has been published.

Next week we will publish more details concerning the protocols for how the mini-assessments will be conducted remotely, and subject teachers will notify students as to the exact date and topic of each assessment. Please note that not every subject will set an assessment during the allocated week, especially in Year 11, as some subjects are currently focusing on the non-examined assessment element of the course.

Best wishes



**Tom Beveridge**  
**Headteacher**