

5 October 2021

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Headteacher: Mrs T Peters

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

We cannot tell you how much of a pleasure it has been to welcome a full cohort of Year 11 students back to John Willmott School. We have been delighted to see them make the transition to Year 11 and we will endeavour to support them to ensure that they achieve the outcomes they deserve despite the pandemic. We have huge aspirations for our Year 11 students and have set aspirational targets for them in line with FFT20 benchmarks. These benchmarks are based on national progress rates from their Key Stage 2 assessments.

On Thursday 14 October you will have the opportunity to speak to subject staff to learn about these target grades. Subject staff have put together a bespoke plan for each child that relates to the key assessment objectives for their subjects. They will be able to share this with you. Students will undertake regular assessments in class which are used in conjunction with any trial exams to estimate current progress. Their trial exams will take place from Monday 15 November over a two week period.

You might have seen in the news that the government has made some announcements this week and this letter aims to give you a clear picture of what has been decided and what implications this has on our teaching, learning and assessment. The documented proposals can be found at the links below. The first outlines the proposals around content and assessment and the second outlines their contingency plan for if we need to move to teacher assessed grades for students.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/outcome/decisions-proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/contingency-arrangements-gcse-as-a-level-project-and-aea/contingency-arrangements-gcse-as-a-level-project-and-aea>

As you will see from this information, there will be some flexibility regarding the way in which the 2022 assessments take place. Now that we have this information our teaching staff will be adapting their teaching schemes to ensure that there is a clear focus on the assessed elements. The government is set to announce on 7 February 2022 which key content is being assessed in each subject. We will ensure that students, parents and carers have this key information and will refocus our revision and assessment.

Now that some restrictions have lifted. In addition to the quality teaching that our students will be receiving in lessons, we will be offering a range of additional experiences outside the classroom. This will include curriculum based trips, revision sessions and online support. In addition to satchel one you can find revision resources at other sites including the [Oak National Academy](https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-11) <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-11> and [BBC bitesize](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3>.

We know that Year 11 can be a pressurised time for students, parents and carers. As a school we want to be able to support you. If there is anything further, we can do to support you please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

**Ms T Richards**  
**Assistant Headteacher**  
**Progress & Outcomes**