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Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

During the week beginning 24th May, our Year 12 students will be completing end-of-year examinations. The arrangements for these have been outlined in detail to students, however, a brief summary of the purpose of the assessments and the plans to run them are included in this letter.

Given the disruption that students have experienced this year, and the fact that they didn't sit end-of-course examinations in Year 11, it is important that they prepare for these assessments as they will provide a key barometer on the progress being made so far. The examinations will also:

- Provide further evidence for staff on the impact of home learning between January and March on students' progress
- Highlight the progress made overall by students on the Year 12 course
- Outline areas where further attention and support is needed over the final few weeks of Year 12 and the start of Year 13
- Support staff predictions for our own internal data and UCAS predictions for those students wanting to apply to University
- Help identify students in need of some additional support from the wider Sixth Form team
- Support students in preparing for next year's final examinations, as we have every reason to believe that they will go ahead as normal.

The examinations will be completed in Lees Hall under examination conditions. Students have received a timetable and when they are not due in an exam, they should attend their timetabled lesson as normal.

Staff have been supporting students in preparing for these assessments for some time and we moved them back from the date originally scheduled in order to allow the students more time to prepare and consolidate work completed during the lockdown. Any students who do not achieve a pass in their Year 12 examination for one of their subjects could potentially be at risk of not being able to continue that course of study in Year 13.

All of our current risk assessment measures to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 will be in place, including: sanitiser upon entry to the examination hall, appropriate spacing between desks, masks worn at all times in the exam hall, a seating plan for each exam and tables and chairs cleaned after each sitting.

We have every reason to feel very positive about the chances of our Year 12 students in these examinations and in their final ones next year. They have faced every challenge thrown at them this year admirably and their levels of commitment and focus to their studies have been noted by all of our staff.

If you or your child have any questions regarding the examination, please contact a member of the Sixth Form Team.

Yours faithfully

Jason Cain Deputy Headteacher

Richard Giles Head of Sixth Form