



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

RGT/JDN

29 April 2021

Dear Parents, Carers & Students,

I am writing to inform you of two important pieces of information.

Firstly, as stated in the previous communication our website outlining the Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG) documentation will be going live tomorrow, Friday 30 April, at 12pm where all students and parents will be able to read about the evidence each subject will be using to decide the TAGs. Please can I remind all students to read this information as you will have to sign the declaration form during one of your assessments next week.

On the subject of assessments, we have been hugely impressed with the way students have approached and handled the difficult times they have faced recently. 18 months ago we could never have predicted what the future held for us as a school and as a community, yet our students have risen to the challenges and faced up to these uncertain times with their usual aplomb. All credit to them; this resilience will certainly stand them in good stead in their future endeavours.

Unfortunately, over the past four days we have seen a spike in the number of positive COVID cases in Year 11, which also impacts on those students named as close contacts; all of whom are having to do their final assessments remotely. Our over-arching responsibility is to keep our students and staff safe and do what we can, when we can, to curb the spread of the virus. With this in mind, we have had to take the difficult decision to ask Year 11 to come into school only for their assessments starting from tomorrow, Friday 30 April.

If a student has no assessments on a particular day we are asking them to study at home to decrease the chances of them either contracting the virus or being named as a close contact at this important time. In addition to this, we are heading to the point at which there are assessments in practical subjects that cannot be done remotely, and should a student have to self-isolate they are likely to miss these; a situation we need to try to avoid.

Arrangements from Friday 30 April

- Students who are self-isolating need to remain doing so until their period of isolation is over.
- Whilst you are working from home your teachers will be available on Teams should you need to contact them, following your normal timetable.

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- Should you need to contact your form teacher, they will also be available on Teams each day during form period in the morning.

For the assessments, I have outlined all the possible scenarios and what students should do in each situation:

Scenario 1 : You have an assessment in the MORNING ONLY

Arrive at school for 8.45am and wait on the MUGA. You will be escorted from the MUGA to the Sports Hall to complete the assessment. Once you have completed the assessment and are dismissed, you can leave and go straight home. The SCR will not be available for students in these circumstances to minimise contact within the building.

Scenario 2 : You have an assessment in the AFTERNOON ONLY

Arrive at school at 12.45pm and wait on Church Street near the gate by the back of the Sports Hall. You will then be escorted into the Sports Hall to complete your assessment. Once you have completed the assessment and are dismissed, you can leave and go straight home. The SCR will not be available for students in these circumstances to minimise contact within the building.

Scenario 3 : You have an assessment in the MORNING AND AFTERNOON

Arrive at school for 8.45am and wait on the MUGA. You will be escorted from the MUGA to the Sports Hall to complete the assessment. Once you have completed the assessment you will go to the SCR for a break and then attend your P3 lesson for that day to do some revision. You will then have the opportunity to use the SCR at lunch in the usual way. After lunch you will be escorted to your exam, again in the usual way.

Scenario 4 : You have NO assessments on a particular day

If you have no assessments on a particular day, then you should revise at home and log on to Teams should you need to speak to your lesson teacher. Continue to avoid other students outside your household bubble in the usual way.

We hope this will be enough to ensure that all our Year 11 students stay as safe as possible during this important time and are all fit and well for the rest of the assessments and, of course, not forgetting their leavers event on 20 May. There are rumours that I have persuaded the staff rock band to reform, with Mr Roberts on Trumpet, so this is an event not to be missed!

Yours faithfully,



Richard Tipler
Deputy Headteacher