

7 January 2021

PS126/21

Dear parents/carers and students In Years 11 and 13,

### **Exams and assessment for GCSE and A Level**

Most of you will be aware that the GCSE and A Level courses are now going to be assessed via a 'Centre Assessed' model rather than via terminal exams. I am therefore writing to explain, as best I can at this stage, what this means for our students.

It is important to recognise that all of the courses will still be assessed and that grades will be issued based on a wide range of evidence of each student's skills, knowledge and understanding. This will include home learning, classwork, mock examinations and in-class assessments.

We will now be teaching the courses, remotely during lockdown and then face to face after that, right through until students go off roll in June. We are not sure of the date for students to go off roll but we will assume that it is around June 20th as is normally the case. There will of course be no exam study leave this year which gives us more time to complete the teaching of the course and assess all elements fairly.

Given that students missed a great deal of face to face teaching in Years 10/12 we view this as a positive opportunity to teach all areas of the courses in sufficient depth. This is important for two reasons: it means that students are fully prepared for the next phase of their study **and** it means that the teacher assessments, which will heavily inform the assigned grades, will be based on as wide a breadth of course content as possible.

Assessment of students' skills, knowledge and understanding will still be completed, albeit through a series of small assessments, including some remote mock exams being planned for February, rather than through a few hours of terminal exams. Teachers will use their professional expertise to gather evidence over the next 5 months so that they can accurately assess the progress of their students.

In this context it is vital that students remain engaged with their courses and attend all of their regular lessons, particularly during the current phase of remote learning, when we know it will be harder to focus than it normally is. All of our staff are here to support the students and very much want to do so.

Please be assured that our focus remains on supporting students to complete the courses and staff to gain as much high quality evidence of progress as possible in order to assign fair grades to all students in the summer.

### **BTEC exams on Monday 11th January**

The scheduled BTEC exams on Monday 11th January, for both Years 10 and 11, will take place as planned. Details will be sent directly to students via our exams officer Mrs Brown. If you have any questions regarding these exams please contact Mrs Brown via [dbrown@theangmeringschool.co.uk](mailto:dbrown@theangmeringschool.co.uk)

Thanks as always for your support,



Simon Liley  
Headteacher

### **Delivering remote learning January and February 2021 A guide for parents and carers**

#### **Context:**

Following the announcement of a national lockdown on Monday 4th January schools will only be open to children of critical workers, children with EHCPs and those children classified as vulnerable (in each case where they cannot safely work at home). All other children will learn remotely.

#### **Our approach to delivering remote learning:**

We will deliver remote learning through a combination of live lessons (wherever possible), recorded video (where live lessons are not possible), online tasks and paper based tasks to be completed at home. From Monday 11th January all students will follow their **normal school timetable** according to these slightly adjusted lesson times:

START - 8:45 - 9:00 (a chance for students to touch base with their tutor)

Lesson 1 - 9:00 - 9:45

Lesson 2 - 10:00 - 10:45

Lesson 3 - 11:15 - 12:00

Lesson 4 - 12:15 - 13:00

Lesson 5 - 13:30 - 14:15

Please note that Monday 11th January is the start of Week 1 on our school timetable.

The 15/30 minute breaks between lessons will allow staff to close down one lesson and start up another. This is particularly important when running live video lessons. It is hoped that these breaks will also allow students to eat, drink, walk around and have some time away from their screens during the school day.

#### **Google Classroom**

All students have access to Google Classroom, Classcharts and various other subject specific websites. Google Classroom will be the place where students access the lesson resources, find messages from staff and get the links to the live lessons. Classcharts will continue to be used to give students rewards for good work.

## Getting students into the right habits

Students should be logging on during START every day (between 8:45 and 9:00) to touch base with their tutor on Google Meet. If they have any issues which they need help with they can use the text function in Google Meet to explain it to their tutor, who will then help them to find a solution.

Students then need to ensure that they are ready for the start of each lesson, have the right links and documents to hand and also have their school exercise books for that subject with them. **A register will be completed in each lesson** and these will be shared with Year Team Leaders who will monitor students' attendance.

Some work will be completed online and submitted to teachers through Google Classroom. Work which is completed on paper can be photographed and then the image shared with teachers via Google Classroom too. Teachers will guide students as to the way which their work must be handed in. Feedback will be provided periodically with the main aim being to support the student's learning.

## Who to contact in case of issues

Type of concern	Person to contact	Best method of contact
Subject specific concerns	Subject teacher	Email to <a href="mailto:office@theangmeringschool.co.uk">office@theangmeringschool.co.uk</a>
ICT access concerns	Group tutor or Year Team Leader	Email to <a href="mailto:office@theangmeringschool.co.uk">office@theangmeringschool.co.uk</a>
General concerns over quality or quantity of work being completed	Year Team Leader	Year 7 (Miss Pegden) <a href="mailto:npegden@theangmeringschool.co.uk">npegden@theangmeringschool.co.uk</a> Year 8 (Mr Smith) <a href="mailto:ssmith@theangmeringschool.co.uk">ssmith@theangmeringschool.co.uk</a> Year 9 (Mr Smith) <a href="mailto:ssmith@theangmeringschool.co.uk">ssmith@theangmeringschool.co.uk</a> Year 10 (Mrs Fillery) <a href="mailto:jfillery@theangmeringschool.co.uk">jfillery@theangmeringschool.co.uk</a> Year 11 (Mr Middleton) <a href="mailto:mmiddleton@theangmeringschool.co.uk">mmiddleton@theangmeringschool.co.uk</a>

Here is a short assembly to outline our expectations for students during this period of remote learning:

<https://www.loom.com/share/58021909b1624bbdb5c344abbeec0af6>