



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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22nd May 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

We are writing to inform you about arrangements regarding the assessment of Year 10 pupils this term. Originally these exams were scheduled to take place between 15th-25th June. Due to the current circumstances, these year 10 exams cannot proceed in their usual capacity, and we will not be conducting formal examinations. When Year 10 pupils return to school, the time they have with their teachers will be best utilised to review the content that has been covered during the school closure period, and to identify areas where more support is needed rather than conducting exams, so it is not appropriate to spend time in school on examinations.

We will be writing to you separately regarding arrangements for Year 10 returning to school, but Year 10 will not be returning to school until the week beginning 29th June at the earliest. The timeline below will allow teachers to review pupil's work before having some face-to-face time with their classes.

There is still a need for assessment to take place to gather relevant information about student understanding and to support teacher planning moving forward. We have therefore arranged for virtual assessments to take place in advance of Year 10 returning to school. These virtual 'bitesize' assessments will be set on Google Classroom during the two week window beginning Monday 8th June 2020. The table below outlines how this will work. Assessments will be completed in lesson time, but have been spread over two weeks to help pupils structure their time and spread the assessment load more evenly.

"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016



	Core Subjects (<i>English Language, English Literature, Maths, Combined Science, Physics, Biology and Chemistry</i>)	Options subjects (<i>History, RE, Geography, Citizenship, Food, GCSE PE, BTEC Sport, Health and Social Care, Drama, Music, Art, Graphics, French, Spanish, German, Computing</i>)
Week Commencing 1st June	Lessons will focus on guided revision	Lessons will focus on guided revision
Week Commencing 8th June	Assessments to be completed on Google Classroom	Lessons will focus on guided revision
Week Commencing 15 th June	Virtual lessons as normal on Google Classroom	Assessments to be completed on Google Classroom

The week commencing 8th June will consist of assessments focussing on the Core Subjects, the following week assessments will focus on Options Subjects. These assessments will be designed to be set and completed during lessons in the stated week. In the week leading up to these assessments teachers will focus on short, structured, guided revision activities within lessons. To ensure pupils are able to manage these assessments it is important to note that assessments will be set during lessons and will need to be completed during the designated time.

The results of these assessments will be communicated directly to students by their subject teacher before the end of term, alongside specific feedback so that pupils know how to improve their work moving forward.

We do understand that the very idea of doing an assessment can cause some pupils anxiety and this may be especially true in the current circumstances. Please reassure your daughter that these are not 'high stakes' mock exams but rather an opportunity for teachers to review their knowledge and understanding and a chance for them to receive valuable feedback about areas that they may need to work on. Inevitably pupils will have gaps in their learning and we want to be able to support pupils to fill these gaps. Teaching staff will be providing more detail about the nature of the assessment to take place in their subject and what preparations pupils can make. We would not expect pupils to be spending large parts of the half term break revising.

Finally we look forward to welcoming pupils back to school and would like to express our pride in how well the majority of Year 10 pupils have embraced the challenges that have emerged in recent months.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr H Pandya
Assistant Headteacher

Mr A Wood
Co-headteacher

Ms T Nickson
Co-headteacher

