



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

10 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Important information regarding February assessments

Firstly, can I take the opportunity to thank you as parents and carers for the ongoing support for your child's studies and of the wider academy community. The positive feedback and understanding shown by so many have been very much appreciated at this time by all staff. I would also like to take the opportunity to express on behalf of all academy staff how proud we are of the resilience and patience shown by all Y11 students at this challenging time.

As you will be aware from my last letter all Y11 students will be completing their first assessment opportunity in the first 2 weeks of Term 4. Due to the ongoing pandemic, and in line with government guidelines regarding the closure of schools, Y11 students will be completing these assessments remotely. We understand and appreciate the pressures this adds to students at this time, however to ensure they have the opportunity to demonstrate the good progress they have made to date, and to ensure knowledge/skills gaps can be identified to plan for future teaching, these assessments will begin on 22nd February. For easy reference the timetable for students can be found here <https://bristolmetropolitanacademy.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/Y11-assessment-window-timetable.pdf> (please note your child will follow the timetable for their relevant cohort, e.g. left or right).

What is the purpose of the assessments after Half Term?

The two weeks after Half Term have always been planned as a set of Mock Exams. However, we will continue to use this time to complete key assessments in each subject. Students will...

- Complete an assessment in each subject, during the first two weeks of Term 4. This provides an opportunity for students to show what they can do, know and understand.
- The assessments have been designed carefully and are based on the curriculum in each subject. Some assessments will feel like an exam paper that you have seen before, some will be part questions. Teachers will inform students of the content and structure of the assessment before the end of term.
- Complete the assessment remotely, at set times across the two weeks (typically aligned to when students would have had the subject)
- Submit the assessment by the time set.
- Receive feedback and a mark for each assessment. The assessments are not graded. Grading through teacher assessment will only happen at the end of the course.
- The feedback that students receive will be used so that students can improve their work.

Pre-release material

We are in the process of collating and sending home pre-release material for all Y11 students. This will support students in completing their online assessments. Students will need to check their packs carefully for the information specific to their courses and can discard any subject material not relating to their courses. This will provide students with hard copies of material they would usually see in an assessment and will help reduce the amount of information on screens that they need to look for.

Submitting assessments





HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Assessments have been designed to be completed online but we appreciate that this isn't always possible depending on the type of device available. It is important students can access their assessments from their device much as they would a live lesson but if they need to handwrite their responses we are happy to receive their work handwrite and scanned/photographed and uploaded to Teams, SMHW or emailed to the subject teacher directly. It is important that all assessments are submitted at the end of the session for marking and feedback.

Along with yourself we await the next government update regarding the reopening of schools and hope to see all Y11 back with us as soon as possible. In the meantime thank you for your continued support of the academy.

Yours sincerely

Helen Barnes
Associate Assistant Principal