



Eastbrook School

Dear Year 11 Students and Parents

A message to Year 11 students

Firstly, I hope this finds you all safe and healthy.

There is no doubt that the last 11 months have been incredibly difficult for everyone, and particularly Year 11, as you all move towards gaining qualifications that will give you access to your future aims and ambitions. It has probably become quite disheartening to have had so many starts and stops in your recent education, and to have spent so much time missing face to face learning with your teachers. As you know, our teachers are working very hard to ensure that your remote learning is as meaningful and useful as possible, but I know it isn't the same as being in school and seeing them face to face.

The reason I am contacting you is that although the vast majority of you are fully engaging and giving yourselves the best possible opportunities in the summer, a small minority of you are not. A number of teachers have been in touch with me recently expressing their concern that some students are either not joining lessons at all or are doing so in a very half-hearted way, and not giving their best. As a result, I thought I would try to clarify the process for the remainder of the year as best I can and emphasise how important it is that you continue to work as hard as you possibly can.

Although still in the consultation stage, it is highly likely that your grades at the end of the year will be decided through a combination of in school testing and teacher assessment, with the latter having the most influence. Probably the most important thing to understand is that it is very likely that any teacher assessment will be based on what they are calling 'current performance' i.e. the progress and attainment you demonstrate at the time of the teacher assessments and the immediate period leading up to their submission. **You must note that these assessments will not be based on what you could or should have got if the pandemic and lockdowns hadn't happened.**

For that reason it is essential that you don't 'back off' at this stage but fully engage with your lessons every day. That means:

- Attending every lesson
- Being punctual for every lesson
- Engaging and contributing to your lessons
- Completing classwork and extra assignments to schedule and to the highest quality you can

Hopefully we will see you all in school before long and things will start to feel a bit more normal, but I must re-emphasise that while you continue to learn remotely, you must do so to the best of your ability. Ultimately it will be in your best interests to do so.

Yours faithfully

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