

## Dear parents/carer,

As we approach our assessment window for Year 11, I thought it would be helpful to remind you of some key pieces of information which will be relevant over the coming weeks. The assessment window will be running from Tuesday 4th May, through until Friday 21st May, with w/b 24th May facilitating the Further Maths assessment and also any catch-up sessions which may need to take place if a student has missed an assessment. This has been previously published on the school website, however, students have also now received their own individual timetables so that they are aware of the exact rooming for their assessments, as well as timings and access arrangements where these apply.

It will be the expectation that all Year II students attend school every day throughout the assessment period. When students are not present in an assessment, they will continue to complete important revision with their teachers and so 'study leave' is not applicable during this time. As you will see from the overall assessment timetable, the morning assessments will begin promptly at 8.25am and therefore it is imperative that students are on site by 8.15am and head straight to their assessment classroom. Equally, all students have been reminded that they must arrive promptly after break and lunch to their assessments taking place throughout the school day to limit disruption to their own performance and that of their peers.

Similarly, as with the December mocks, we expect students to arrive at their assessment room with all of their own equipment. Due to safety measures around Covid-19, we will be unable to provide and share equipment amongst students, so it is really important that they bring whatever they need with them. A list of the basic equipment needs are as follows:

- Scientific calculator
- Protractor and compass
- 2x black pens
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener

As previously communicated, it is important that students take these assessments seriously and appreciate that they will form a significant part of the final outcome they are likely to receive in August. In light of this we do expect excellent behaviour throughout the assessment period to ensure all students are provided with a purposeful environment, which is free from disruption and this has been clearly explained to students throughout their online assemblies.

We also wanted to remind you that should you and your child feel that there is a mitigating circumstance which has impacted on their performance in key assessment pieces throughout Year 11, or indeed, should something quite exceptional and unpreventable take place on the day of any of the assessments throughout the May assessment window, it is important that this is shared with school as soon as possible, along with any evidence to support this. A mitigating circumstance is generally referred to an exceptional and unpreventable circumstance which has significantly affected a student's ability to prepare and perform in line within their usual

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way of working. For example, this could include a close family bereavement during the assessment period, a significant physical injury or unavoidable illness on the day of assessment. As stated, evidence will need to be provided alongside any submission of a mitigating circumstance. We will be looking at any submissions on a case-by-case basis and will work with families to assess any mitigating circumstances and how this may or may not impact the overall assessment outcomes this summer. Should you wish to submit information on a mitigating circumstance, please do so by emailing the circumstance and evidence to <a href="mailto:exams@lymmhigh.org.uk">exams@lymmhigh.org.uk</a> by 26th May 2021.

In looking ahead, we will be providing information to students and parents on results days and how these will operate, but we can confirm GCSE results day is set for Thursday 12th August 2021. We will also release information to support students who have concerns about their results, as well as providing support around the next steps for their education.

We would like to wish all of our Year 11 students the very best of luck in their assessments and thank you for your ongoing support in what has been a challenging year. Miss Taylor will shortly be in touch with information around plans for a Leavers celebration which will provide students with something positive to look forward to in celebrating their time with us over the last five years.

Should you or your child have any queries or questions which we can help with, please do not hesitate to get in touch by contacting either Miss Taylor, Head of Year, or myself.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Feast

Assistant Headteacher: Raising Standards and Achievement