

Re: Summer 2022 examinations – advanced information from the awarding bodies

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last Monday, most of the awarding bodies (or exam boards) published their long-awaited advanced information for schools and candidates, setting out final details for the summer exams. The information relates to the content to be assessed, amendments to the nature of the assessment, and any documentation that will need to be shared with candidates as 'pre-release material'.

Now that the 'hub-bub' in the media has died down and the exam board websites have stopped crashing, colleagues in school have had time to absorb and process the information, having looked at the implications of it from the perspective of our school context. As a result, and under the leadership of each Head of Department, subject teachers are now beginning to issue candidates with all the relevant information and what it means to them in each of their subjects. This will be a combination of presentations in lessons, handouts and/or copies of the actual exam board published material.

Regardless of the subject detail, our advice to all candidates is as follows:

1. Allow subject staff to make the necessary decisions about which aspects of content to drop/retain, which topics to assess and which topics to revise, as they are the professionals with the expertise to judge progress against the 2-year curriculum plan that drives the delivery of each KS4 and KS5 examination course
2. Ask questions to your subject staff if you have a query, or if there is anything in the subject-specific guidance that you do not understand, or is causing you concern
3. Continue to deploy your very best Attitude to Learning (AtL) to all aspects of your school work, both in lessons and at home
4. Continue to engage with a thorough programme of effective revision – exams are definitely happening this coming summer
5. Continue to hone your examination techniques of how to tackle different types of questions with different command words
6. Don't worry, there aren't any surprises in what the exam boards published and it confirms what we were expecting to happen

All of the fine detail is available from each subject page on the respective exam board website, should you wish to view it.

Now that some degree of clarity and certainty has been presented, we can proceed with confidence through the remainder of our subject specifications and carry out our usual processes to support candidates prepare in full for their forthcoming examinations.

I wish you all a happy half-term holiday.

Yours sincerely

Mr N. Parker

Deputy Head - Curriculum