



PONTELAND HIGH SCHOOL



Aiming for our students to be happy, feel safe and secure, and achieve exceptionally well

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Dear Parents

I wanted to contact you to provide an update on plans for Y12 students.

Some of our Y12 students are involved in the assessment weeks this half term; this is only if they had external exams scheduled this summer, e.g. BTEC Applied Human Biology, AS Maths. Y11 and Y13 students will have their final assessments during the last week of this half term with their last official day in school being Friday 28 May meaning that after the May half term break we will only have Y12 within the 6th form areas in school.

Y12 end of year exams

Y12 lessons will continue as normal this half term with end of year exams planned for the week beginning 14 June. These assessments will be timetabled in the school hall, which we feel is important as the students did not have the experience of sitting their GCSE exams last summer. We want them to be fully prepared for an external exam season in year 13 and feel this will prove a useful staging post. The detailed timetable for these exams will come out after the current internal assessment weeks.

Students will be off timetable during the week and need only come into school for their exams, but some may wish to work in school or speak to staff, who will be available. The exams will be used as one piece of evidence to shape predicted grades for university applications. Results will be used to inform the grade card and are a useful guide to potential attainment in Y13.

Preparing for life after school

In tutorials we are preparing students for life beyond school, whether that be apprenticeships, colleges or university, and we shall be leading students through the registration process for UCAS, which is the main application method for Higher and Further Education.

We will be encouraging students to start drafting their personal statements and that process should be ending by July. Tutors will provide feedback and advice to support improvements through the redrafting process. Subject teachers will be writing subject references this term as part of the process as well. In the week beginning 5 July, there will be the opportunity to complete UCAS forms as well as complete EPQ reports; more details about this week will be coming out nearer the time.

A-level Biology students will be going to the Lake District for their residential field trip for four nights beginning 21 June, which is the week following the internal examinations. Finally, we aim to hold a celebration of achievement assembly for Y12 at the end of term.

I have tried to capture the key dates for you in the list below.

Week Beginning:

28 May Last day of assessment week C and half term holiday begins

7 June First day back after half term

14 June End of Year Exam Week

21 June Biology field trip - Borrowdale

5 July EPQ completion and UCAS forms

12 July Celebration of achievement assembly in this week

16 July Last day of term

Thank you for your continued support especially throughout this most challenging of years.

Yours faithfully

David Hicklenton
Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth form



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