



ALL SAINTS

CATHOLIC COLLEGE

ORARE LABORARE SERVIRE

19th May 2021

Dear parent/guardian,

End of Year Assessments for Year 8

I want to begin by thanking you wholeheartedly for your continued support since your child returned to school in March. This has been an extraordinarily busy time for schools with the focus being predominantly on assessing where students are at in their learning, re-planning the curriculum, with the added burden of also working on Teacher Assessed Grades for our Year 11 students.

Following meetings with teachers and subject leaders, we have been carefully planning our next steps to ensure that we best plan your child's future at All Saints so that he/she can be successful at school. As a result, rather than setting end of Years exams in every subject, I have decided to focus on detailed examinations in English and Mathematics for years 7, 8 and 9. Whilst all subjects within the school are highly important, English and Mathematics form the building blocks of his/her education - success in these subjects have clear impact on success in other subjects. Therefore, it is essential that we get a detailed understanding of how your child is performing in English and Mathematics so that we can successfully and appropriately plan for the next few years of learning.

Your child will complete end of topic assessments in his other subjects, but these will not be to the same degree of detail as in English and Mathematics. By the end of this year we will provide you with your child's end of unit assessment grades in each of his/her subjects, but also a detailed breakdown of his/her performance in English and Mathematics examinations. A comprehensive list of revision topics for these exams will be shared with your child on Microsoft Teams so that he/she is able to fully prepare. Your child's English and Mathematics exams will take place on:

English Exams	Date
Writing Paper	Monday 21st June Period 3&4
Reading Paper	Thursday 24th June Period 1&2

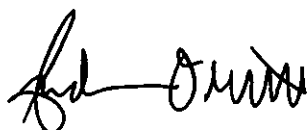
Mathematics Exams	Date
Non-Calculator Paper	Tuesday 22nd June Period 3&4
Calculator Paper 1	Thursday 24th June Period 3&4
Calculator Paper 2	No Exam

These examinations will be taking place for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 with students in Year 10 undertaking examinations in each of their subjects in preparation for their GCSE examinations next summer. As a result of this, and in line with other local schools, for the weeks beginning 14th, 21st and 28th June, the school day will finish at 2pm (unless your child has an examination) in order to allow teaching staff the time to mark, moderate and formally record the results to be shared with you before the end of term. As I am sure you will agree, there is a significant amount of work for staff to complete in order to provide wholesome and accurate feedback to best plan for your child's future. It is also absolutely vital that your child prepares for these exams diligently by using spare time, weekends and the half term break to revise.

A key component of successful assessment and feedback is the dialogue between teachers and parents. I believe that the impact of meeting about these assessments in the immediate aftermath could be lost over the summer holidays. Therefore, on September 17th, we are holding a day of parent meetings to provide you with an opportunity to meet all of your child's teachers and ensure that we can discuss the outcome of these assessments at a point where the impetus will be on a new year and a realigned focus. It will also provide you with an opportunity to see the significant improvements that have been made to the school site over the past two years.

If you have any questions or queries relating to these assessments, please contact your child's Head of Year, Mr Burke, to discuss the matter further. Once again, thank you for the support you have shown the school and let's continue to work together to support your child with his/her education.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A O'Neill', written in a cursive style.

Mr A O'Neill
Headteacher