

Dear Parents/carers

As mentioned in the Headteacher's update, the government have published a contingency framework for exams in the summer. It is highly unlikely that exams will be cancelled, but we do need to put in place some measures that will allow us to collect evidence of student performance if this were to happen. The guidance around what the evidence should include and the nature of the assessment that should take place are strict and we will need to follow this guidance to ensure that the evidence we are collecting is fair.

The Department for Education have asked that schools plan 3 assessment opportunities for each subject, which students sit under exam conditions. These assessments will be on the content that has been taught and students will be given some guidance as to the specific content as this will be the case for the exams in the summer; students will also receive additional support such as formula tables which also reflects what will be happening in the exams in the summer. Students who have additional time, readers or writers will also receive this support in each of the assessment windows.

The assessments will be marked by teachers but standardised by other teachers within the department. Students cannot be given the opportunity to repeat these assessments to improve their results. It is vitally important that students revise for these exams in order to gain the best grades they possibly can.

The 3 assessment windows will take place in:

1. Week of 6th December
2. Week of 7th February
3. Week of 23rd May and 6th June

All students have received an [exam timetable](#) for the exams starting on 6th Dec as well as a [revision list](#) so they know exactly what to revise for their exams. Our aim is to support students throughout this process by providing information on the timing and content of the exams at least 3 weeks in advance in order to allow them to be fully prepared for the exams. This obviously does increase the pressure for students as evidence collected could be used to determine their actual grades in the summer, but the benefit will be that the additional focus now and in the next two windows will be excellent preparation for the exams that we still expect to take place in the summer.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on leanne.clay@johnspence.org.uk

Yours faithfully

Leanne Clay
Deputy Head

Telephone · 0191 296 1432

Preston Road · North Shields · Tyne and Wear · NE29 9PU

jschs.office@ntl.org.uk · www.johnspence.org.uk