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BISHOPSHALT SCHOOL

"Above all else a place for learning"

15th June 2020

Dear Parents

I am writing to inform you about the forthcoming Sixth Form assessments taking place between 1st and 10th July 2020. Students will experience a variety of assessments, depending on the nature of their courses; for most students, this will be an exam. You will be notified if there is an alternative assessment such as assignment or practical task. The exam timings will be the same as the lesson timetable starting on 17th June 2020. Exams will be no longer than 2½ hours and a maximum of 30 minutes will be permitted for students who have an extra time allowance. Teachers will confirm the exam duration and content in their lessons.

Lesson on Wednesday 17 June	Lesson on Thursday 18 June	Lesson on Friday 19 June		Lesson on Wednesday 24 June	Lesson on Thursday 25 June	Lesson on Friday 26 June
Exam on 1 July	Exam on 2 July	Exam on 3 July		Exam on 8 July	Exam on 9 July	Exam on 10 July
Criminology Block (A)	Sociology	Business Studies		Economics	Chemistry	Criminology Block (D)
Maths	Biology	Physics		Media Studies	History	English Literature
Psychology	Photography	Art		Law	CTECH Performing Arts	Accounting
Geography	Design Technology	Theatre Studies		Dance	CTEC Business	
Religious Studies	Physical Education	French		Politics	CTEC Health and Social Care	
	Further Maths			Computing		

In the absence of face to face lessons for the last few weeks, we realise that sitting an exam is going to be daunting for many students. We want to reassure students that the purpose of the assessments is to ensure that students have engaged and understood the content of their courses in Year 12, so that they can enter Year 13 with solid foundations.

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An Arts College specialising in Music and the Performing Arts Royal Lane, Hillingdon, Uxbridge, UB8 3RF

Headteacher: Mr L McGillicuddy

There is no doubt that Sixth Form qualifications are challenging; the end of year assessments are a good milestone from which to judge progress. They will help teachers judge what has been learnt this year, identify any gaps in knowledge and they are excellent practice for next year's final exams. We use assessments to help predict grades for UCAS (university entrance), but these exams will not be the only evidence of likely results next year. Equally, these exams and your previous exam results and assessments prior to lockdown, will be important in determining how best to support you in September.

The annual Review Day – details to follow - will take place during the week commencing 13th July 2020 and will involve a discussion between students and their Tutor or Head of Year about the year and the next steps in a student's career progression. Tutors will consider a student's attendance, punctuality, effort and assessment grades throughout the year, as well as their behaviour and conduct as part of this guidance.

We encourage students to attend school, however, it is not compulsory at this time. If a student is 'extremely vulnerable' (or if someone in your house is) or you are self-isolating, then we will not expect a student in school for either exams or lessons, but **we need written confirmation. You must contact the school via email and inform us as to your situation and the details and dates supporting non-attendance.** Students will then be eligible for online assessments – further details will follow. The main curriculum is still online learning.

With regards to work experience, I am afraid that this will not be able to happen for the foreseeable future and is cancelled this summer. I would encourage students to take advantage of some of the many online resources available. Mrs Vodden has been sending out regular career related updates and will continue to do so. We will be exploring how we can compensate for the loss of work experience in due course.

If you are worried about your child attending school, then please contact us.

Yours faithfully



P Harris (Mr)
Director of Sixth Form