

17 May 2021

Dear Year 11 Students and Year 11 Parents/Carers,

I am writing to outline our plans for your completion of the assessments and your time in Year 11. However, I firstly want to congratulate you for the way in which you have approached this term and this unique assessment process. We the staff have generally been very impressed by your maturity and the calm determination and resilience you have demonstrated in completing a whole range of assessments which you didn't even know about three months ago. Well done! I hope that you also appreciate that staff have also been working incredibly hard to support you as well as assess you fairly. We're all in this together. Keep it up and please ensure that you finish this process as well as you started it!

AWARDING QUALIFICATIONS

The Office for Qualifications (Ofqual) who oversee exams nationally have published a [student guide to awarding: summer 2021](#). This guide offers support for you and is written for students to explain the grading process this year.

LEAVING WELL

What is really important is that you now complete your last few assessments and finish your time in the lower school of TCS as well as possible. As you complete the last assessments in some subjects, please ensure that you have other work or revision with you in what will become study periods. For many of you, your last assessment will be an English assessment on the morning of Thursday 27 May. All of you need to complete this. Then some of you have a science assessment period 2 and/or a DT or languages assessment period 3, a languages assessment period 4 and/or a history assessment period 5. Whichever is your last assessment, when this is done, you are allowed to leave the site.

What you must not do is miss one of these final assessments just because others are leaving. If you miss an assessment this will be disastrous for your final grade unless you have a valid reason for not being able to be there (e.g. illness). Many of you will also be asked to come back to school after the half term to complete work in BTEC and practical subjects which still needs to be finished before you can be graded. Again, it is essential that you do not miss these sessions as that would mean all of your previous hard work in that subject going to waste.

I also need to be really clear and ask that you do not do anything when you are finished and leaving which disrupts the school or makes life difficult for others. Many of your peers may be taking assessments and it is simply not fair or right to create any disruption in the

Principal: Mr James O'Connell

Exeter Road, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 9HZ

Tel: 01626 774091 **Visit:** www.teignmouthsecondary.co.uk



mistaken belief that this is funny. I don't like to make threats but I will have no hesitation in banning anyone who does engage in any antisocial or disruptive behaviour from the site. This will mean that you will not be allowed to attend the leavers assembly or any of the events planned for after half term including the prom. Your potential place in the Sixth Form would also be in jeopardy.

If/when you do leave the site, please remember that you are still representing our school and community and behave well. Particularly as many people in our wider community are still concerned and anxious about the pandemic, please do not gather in groups in town.

FINAL ASSEMBLY

On Friday 28 May, the last day of the half term, we think you deserve a lie in! We would like to invite you back into school from 11.15 in your own clothes. Do bring in a shirt if you'd like to get it signed and gather outside the arts centre where we will have some informal photographs. There will then be a leavers' assembly starting at 11.45 in the auditorium.

SIXTH FORM TASTER DAYS

After the half term we will be running some taster days for our Sixth Form. Individual invites to those who have applied to our Sixth Form will be sent out shortly, along with all the relevant details regarding these sessions. These days will give you an insight into the very different world of studying post-16 and give you some idea about the various course contents and how you can get ahead and prepare for September in the very long summer holiday you have ahead of you! The taster days will run on **Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 June.**

PROM

Thank you to all who completed the questionnaire Ms Brown sent out. We are pulling together plans for a prom which we will confirm shortly. This is due to take place on **Friday 2 July.**

RESULTS DAY

GCSE, BTEC and other level 2 qualifications will be released on Thursday 12 August. We will send out further guidance on this later in the summer but we hope that you will come back into school on the morning of this day to get your results. You will also be able to get some advice about your next steps and sign up for our Sixth Form on this day.

RETURNS

Finally, during the lockdowns we issued some of you with laptops. If you have one of these school laptops, we need you to return them once your assessments are all

completed. We will need to pass these on to new students joining us in Year 7 who may need one. If you come to our Sixth Form in September, there will be an opportunity to be re-issued one if you need it. You also need to return any library books or school text books or resources. Some subjects, such as science, lent many of you revision guides. Please also return these so that they can be passed on to students in the future.

Also, please could you consider donating your uniform as you finish? More families than ever are struggling financially in these exceptionally difficult times and if you would donate any blazers, jumpers, ties, PE tops, trousers or shirts and skirts in good repair, this could really help some families in the future who we could pass these on to. There will be a collection box available in Student Services.

Thank you again and I hope very much that these final days in the lower school of TCS are really positive, both in terms of your final grades and in saying a fond farewell to staff and many friends!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James O'Connell', written in a cursive style.

Mr O'Connell
Principal