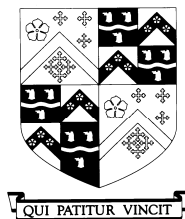


THE LATYMER SCHOOL

Founded 1624



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HEADTEACHER

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6th May 2009

Dear Parent / Carer

RE: Year 8 Week Beginning Monday 11th May

I am writing to inform you about the activities during the week beginning Monday 11th May which will affect all Year 8 students.

During this week all Year 8 students will attend an extended session covering education about personal development and sexual health. This will be led by a team of experts from the organisation 'Evaluate'. 'Evaluate' have successfully delivered 'life skills' to our Year 7s and 10s for a number of years. Building on this we have booked a session for Year 8, to cover bullying, living in our society, assertiveness, relationships, contraception, STIs, drugs and alcohol. All topics are delivered in a responsible, moral and sensitive way. For groups Ashworth, Dolbe and Keats this will be during lessons 1, 2 and 3 on Thursday 14th May. For Forms Lamb, Latymer and Wyatt it will be during periods 6, 7 and 8 on Thursday 14th May.

There will also be whole-year tests in Mathematics and Science during this week. The Mathematics test will be used to inform the decision over which set a student will be placed in for Year 9.

The Science test will be an opportunity to consolidate an extended section of work and to inform teachers about progress at Key Stage Three. We have adjusted the curriculum for GCSE to give all students an opportunity to study Triple Science. This will give each student three separate science GCSE subjects, but will be taught in the same curriculum time in Years 10 and 11. The course will begin in the lesson time in Year 9, where it has been successfully embedded this year.

The times for the tests are:

DATE	SESSION	START TIME	SUBJECT	LENGTH	VENUE
Wednesday 13th May	Afternoon	1:45 pm	Mathematics 1	45 minutes	Great Hall
		2:30 pm	Mathematics 2	45 minutes	
Thursday 14th May	Morning	11:15 am (Periods 4 & 5)	Science	1 hr	Great Hall

Internal Examination Regulations

1. All answers must be written in black biro or pen.
2. Students must bring everything they need for the examination in a clear bag or case.
3. The following must not be brought into the examination hall
 - Calculator lids which have instructions on them
 - If a water bottle is brought in, the label must be removed
 - No mobile phones (even if switched off) or other communication devices.
 - Books or bags

4. Students enter and leave the hall in silence.
5. All personal possessions must be left in their lockers.


There will be no whole-year tests in English. Assessment in English will be based on common assessment tasks taken across the academic year in the three elements of the English National Curriculum (reading, writing and speaking and listening).

The tests will take place in school at the same time for the whole year group in formal conditions, similar to those in place for external examinations such as GCSEs. This will allow students to become familiar with the procedures, expectations and conditions of examination.

All students will be expected to attend school as usual on these dates, in full school uniform.

On the afternoon of Wednesday 13th May students will be dismissed from school at the end of the second Mathematics paper, which is expected to be at approximately 3.20pm.

Yours sincerely,



Linda Beskeen
Deputy Head, Curriculum