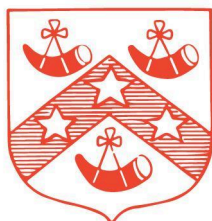




1536



1701

# THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

*Love as Brethren*

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA (Hons), PGDip, NPQH, NPQEL

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: [info@cooperscoborn.org.uk](mailto:info@cooperscoborn.org.uk) | Website: [www.cooperscoborn.org.uk](http://www.cooperscoborn.org.uk) |

Wednesday 26th February 2025

## Re: Year 13 'Assessment Week': Monday 17th - Friday 21st March

Dear parent(s) and carer(s)

In a little over a month's time, your son/daughter will be completing a series of final, substantive assessments in each of their A Level subjects. Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21st March has been designated as 'Year 13 Assessment Week' during which time all students in Year 13 will be completing final, key assessments in each A Level.

We have changed our assessment strategy for Year 13 and believe there is a coherent rationale for the timing and format of the assessments:

- These assessments come at a critical point in the A Level course, with around two months to go until the start of the A Level exams.
- The key purpose of these assessments is to provide diagnostic feedback to students; informing them of the final areas of focus in the remaining few weeks. The intention is to have this feedback prior to the Easter holidays.
- We want to provide staff with information about where there might be 'learning gaps' in the material taught; so that the final weeks of teaching can address this
- As the previous mock examinations were brought forward to December, there were areas of the specifications that subject departments could not assess, particularly the synoptic elements of the A Level courses. This assessment window provides that opportunity

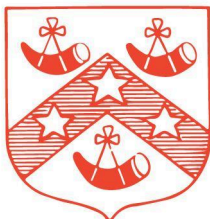
Mr Edwards, Mr Bell and I will be delivering an assembly to your son/daughter where we will talk through both the rationale, as well as the logistics for the 'Assessment Week'.

The key points are:

- Students are expected in school as usual during this week
- All timetabled lessons will take place as usual
- Each subject will be completing a number of assessments, typically ranging from 45 minutes to an hour in length
- All assessments will take place within the usual classroom environment, overseen by the usual teaching staff
- For 45-minute assessments, students in receipt of access arrangements (25% extra time), will receive the additional time in the classroom setting. For assessment which are 1 hour in lengths, students will receive bespoke arrangements which will be communicated to them individually via Mr Edwards
- All students will receive their assessment timetable in the assembly; teaching staff in each A Level subject will confirm with your son/daughter the content to be assessed in each slot
- Please note - to ensure minimal disruption to lessons and to maintain the integrity of the examination (due to there being four teaching groups) some Maths examinations take place during part of lunch and afterschool. We are providing students with over three weeks notice to make arrangements to work around this schedule, particularly if they are in paid employment.



1536



1701

# THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

*Love as Brethren*

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA (Hons), PGDip, NPQH, NPQEL

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: [info@cooperscoborn.org.uk](mailto:info@cooperscoborn.org.uk) | Website: [www.cooperscoborn.org.uk](http://www.cooperscoborn.org.uk) |

- Feedback will be provided to students as soon as possible in lessons, before the Easter holidays

Whilst these assessments are obviously significant; it is important that I point out:

- These internal assessments do not directly contribute to the final A Level outcome.
- No indicative A Level grades will be provided as a result of these assessments - this is not their purpose.
- Parents/Carers will be provided with a % mark in each A Level subject
- In a number of subjects, a significant proportion of the final A Level grade may be determined by Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) – for example Drama, Art, Music– please note that these assessments will not capture performance in this non-exam assessed element.

However, we have stressed to students this morning the importance of preparing fully for these assessments.

A copy of the assessment timetable is attached to this letter – this was shared with your son/daughter this morning and subject teachers will explain specifically what is being assessed in each assessment slot.

We are also mindful of the additional stress and pressure of the next few weeks and we are here to support all students, at what will understandably be a difficult time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Marshall  
Head of Year 13

Mr R Bell  
Deputy Head: Director of 6th Form

Mr J Edwards  
Deputy Head: Teaching & Learning