



Beaumont School

Austen Way St Albans Hertfordshire AL4 0XB t: 01727 854726

www.beaumontschool.com e: admin@beaumont.school

Headteacher: Mr M Atkinson e: head@beaumont.school

5 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to Mr Atkinson's email earlier this week about the plan for introducing face-to-face contact for Year 12 students before the summer holiday, I would like to give you some further information about the upcoming internal exams for the year group, which will take place remotely in the week beginning 22 June. This letter only concerns exams for subjects studied at Beaumont School. In the case of students who will be sitting an exam for a subject studied elsewhere in the BSV Consortium, we will communicate separately with you about the date and arrangements.

Four or five subjects will set their exams per day during the week. The exams will not be allocated to morning or afternoon sessions, but students will be required to sit the papers at some point during the day. They must adhere to the stated duration (those who are entitled to it may take their extra time) and to exam conditions i.e. no use of notes, textbooks, internet or other sources of information other than those which would be allowed if the exams were taking place in school. Papers will be posted by teachers on students' Google Classrooms at 8am on the day of the exam and students will be required to submit their work, also via Google Classroom, by 6pm on the same day. If students do not meet the submission deadline, their work will not be marked and no grade will be awarded. In the event of a student being ill on the day of an exam, we would encourage them to attempt the exam if they are able to do so, but if this is not possible, please contact the school by email (sixthform@beaumont.school) to let us know. This email address should also be used in the event of difficulties accessing the exam papers on the day, but if this happens, your son/daughter should also contact the teachers via Google Classroom.

We have attempted to create a schedule to avoid students having to sit more than two papers in a day, which you can find in the table below. Art and Photography do not appear because they have separate arrangements which are not part of the main schedule, and teachers have communicated them to students via Google Classroom, although strict adherence to their deadline will still be required in order for the exam to be marked. Some of our vocational subjects are also not included because they have alternative methods of assessment and will not be setting an internal exam.

Monday 22nd June	Business Economics	Further Maths	Geography	German	Philosophy and Ethics
Tuesday 23rd June	Chemistry	French	History	Music	Psychology
Wednesday 24th June	Computer Science	Drama	Economics	English Literature	Physics
Thursday 25th June	Biology	Media BTEC	Politics	Sociology	
Friday 26th June	Business BTEC	Mathematics	PE	Spanish	

In the majority of subjects it will be possible for students to word process the entirety of their response, and we would encourage them to do so. However, it is not compulsory, so students will not be disadvantaged if access to suitable devices is





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problematic. The likelihood of word processing has been taken into account in the amount of content in the exams and their timings. A few subjects will require students to produce at least some of their answers by hand, as outlined in the table at the end of this letter. In these circumstances, we ask students to scan their work for submission rather than to take a photo of it, because this is likely to make it more easily legible. If you do not have a scanner in the house, scanning apps are available for mobile phones. If your son/daughter takes a subject for which any of the required facilities (see table below) will present a problem for you, please contact us by email (sixthform@beaumont.school) by 12th June so we can provide you with support. If there are questions about exam content and arrangements for particular subjects, your son/daughter should ask the relevant teachers via Google Classroom by 12th June.

Clearly the process of holding remote exams requires a high degree of trust in our students to do the right thing and resist any temptation to break the rules. We do not expect you to invigilate the papers formally, but it would be extremely helpful if you could support your son/daughter to ensure that things are done correctly e.g. I would recommend that they leave their phone and relevant materials with you while they sit exams and that you time them. Students with access arrangements are welcome to use them, and if this involves a reader or scribe, the role will need to be filled by somebody in the household. We appreciate that this is a considerable undertaking for you, and we are grateful for any effort you put in to support the process.

While we have every confidence that our students will take a responsible approach to these exams, it is important to make clear that teachers will be alert to signs of cheating, and we will investigate thoroughly and take a very strict approach if any concerns on that front prove to be well-founded. At the very least, the exam result will be regarded as null and void and the school will consider the most appropriate sanctions to be imposed on the student. We have significantly lowered the stakes for these exams in order to reduce the pressure on students, in recognition of the extended period of remote learning and also to make malpractice less likely. As previously explained, UCAS estimates will be derived primarily from the spring report grades, although we have preserved the possibility of some improvement arising from these exams.

Thank you very much for your patience in taking the time to read a lengthy letter. I do hope it makes the arrangements clear to you. Your support and cooperation will make a huge difference to the success of these exams, which we see as important assessments to gauge how well our students have grasped the material we have taught throughout Year 12, including the period of remote learning. The results will enable us to plan more effectively how to support students in their learning as they progress into Year 13 and to prepare them for the public exams next year. I hope that all students are working hard to prepare and I wish them the very best of luck.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Mountstevens
Deputy Headteacher





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Summary of Exam Timings and Requirements

Subject	Duration of Exam	Can it be entirely word processed?	Other information
Art	n/a	No	This exam is not part of the main schedule. Teachers will communicate separate arrangements via Google Classroom. Deadline 3 rd July.
Biology	2 hours	Yes	
Business BTEC	1 hour	No	Mathematical questions will require handwritten answers.
Business Economics	2 hours	No	Calculations and diagrams will need to be produced by hand.
Chemistry	3 hours	No	Equations, diagrams and drawings will need to be produced by hand.
Computer Science	2 hours	Yes	
Drama	1 hours 30 mins	Yes	In addition to the 1 hour 30 min written paper students will need to upload a 2-3 min monologue.
Economics	2 hours	Yes	Calculations and diagrams will need to be produced by hand.
English Literature	2 hours 30 mins	Yes	
French	2 hours 15 mins	Yes	Audio will be required as there is a listening component.
Further Maths	2 hours	No	Some answers will need to be written by hand and some evidence of handwritten working submitted.
Geography	2 hours 40 mins	Yes	
German	2 hours 15 mins	Yes	Audio will be required as there is a listening component.
History	2 hours 45 mins	Yes	
Mathematics	2 hours	No	Some answers will need to be written by hand and some evidence of handwritten working submitted.
Media BTEC	2 hours	Yes	Video and audio are required for analysis of media clips.
Music	2 hours 30 mins	Yes	Audio will be required as it is a listening paper.
Philosophy and Ethics	2 hours 15 mins	Yes	
Photography	n/a	No	This exam is not part of the main schedule. Teachers will communicate separate arrangements via Google Classroom. Deadline 3 rd July.
Physical Education	2 hours	Yes	
Physics	2 hours 30 mins	No	Some calculations and working will need to be handwritten.
Politics	1 hour	Yes	





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	30 mins		
Psychology	2 hours	Yes	
Sociology	2 hours 15 mins	Yes	
Spanish	2 hours 15 mins	Yes	Audio will be required as there is a listening component.

