



Respect Honesty Compassion Resilience Industry Courage

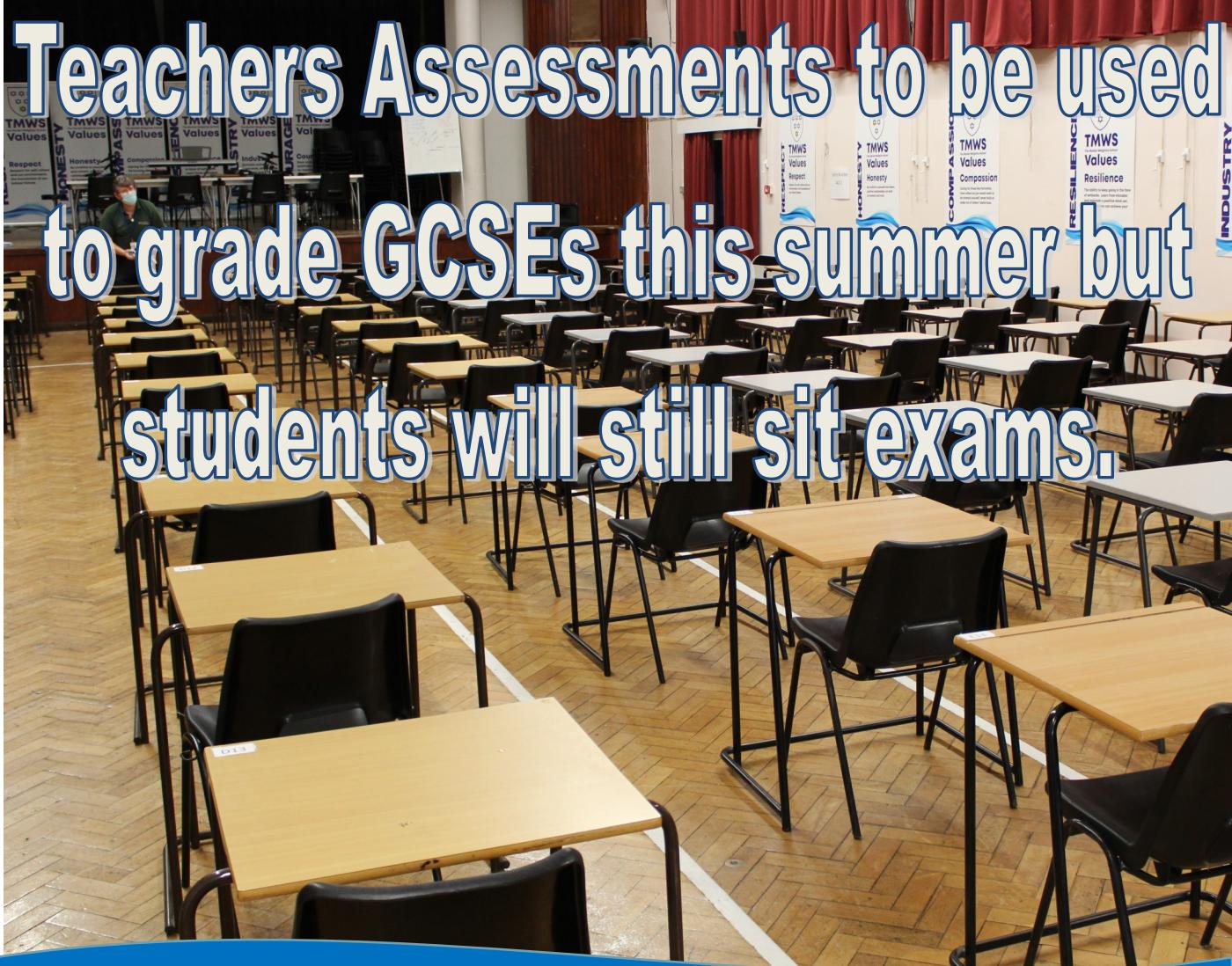
The Market Weighton School

Expect More - Achieve More

Parent Newsletter

January 2021

ISSUE 70



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Back in lockdown and learning from home

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November 2020 Ofsted visit



The Market Weighton School

Expect More - Achieve More

Headteacher's Update

We find ourselves in national lockdown once again with the majority of students working at home but things are very different this time around. Firstly, we are much more prepared in terms of teaching remotely. Staff have learnt how to use the Google Classroom platform to set work and deliver live lessons at least to the point where we were able to offer live learning every lesson from the first day of term. I would like to thank all the staff for their enthusiasm with this and how they have worked together to share ideas and tips on how to get the best from these resources. I know you have appreciated the move to live lessons as parents judging by your feedback on E-Praise, e-mail and on Facebook. All the positive feedback and messages of thanks have been really motivational for the staff at this challenging time. We are all learning how to work with these new technologies so you should see a little more variety and refinements as the weeks progress.

We also have some students still accessing their learning in school, double the number we had at the end of the last lockdown but the right students are coming in. All 5 of our foundation learning groups are operating as normal will staff teaching those students in school. These groups comprise most of our students with Education and Health Care Plans. The students of critical workers and others deemed vulnerable are accessing the same remote lessons as their peers working at home. Each Year group has a dedicated IT room / area with students using the same computer every day. With around 55 students in school each day it is easier to maintain social distancing and follow other COVID procedures to keep staff and students safe.

We are starting to offer weekly lateral flow tests to staff from this week and all the students accessing school will also be offered a test. These tests are to pick up anyone who may have COVID but not have any symptoms. Even then, these tests will not catch all such cases, so we can't relax any of our procedures; the tests add another level of protection to make the school even safer. If any staff member or student has symptoms they must still stay at home and get a test at a COVID Testing Centre or order a home test (we have a good stock in school too if needed). All positive COVID tests should still be reported to school so we can identify any contacts who may be in school.

We know that all GCSE and BTEC exams will not take place 'as normal' this summer. We know that teachers will determine the grades after training from the examination boards using a wide range of evidence. The government are now consulting on exactly what that evidence should be and shorter exams have been proposed to be marked by teacher but set by the exam boards to take place in June. This could be a lot like exams! Also it has been suggested that all coursework should still be completed. I must urge all Year 11 students to continue working hard and all I can promise is that we will do all we can to ensure you get the results you deserve. The class of 2021 have consistently shown they will achieve outstanding GCSE grades throughout their time at TMWS and I am confident that this will still be the case judging by the attitude to learning in the first two weeks of lockdown this January.

We know that we will be continuing to work in this way until at least Monday 22nd February but we also know that schools will not be able to re-open more widely whilst the NHS is under so much strain. We must all do what we can to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep ourselves, our friends, our colleagues, and our families safe.

Richard Harrison
Headteacher



Remote Learning: What to expect

Students working at home will need access to the internet to attend live lessons on Google Classroom. During this lockdown all lessons will be taught 'live' with work set for completion on Google Classroom. Instructions will also be given in E-Praise and teachers and students can communicate using E-Praise messenger.

The response from students and parents to the first week of remote learning has been very encouraging with many staff reporting almost 100% attendance to lessons and parents telling us how much more engaged their children have been this time round. At the start of the last lockdown only a few staff knew how to use these platforms but with periods of working at home expected this time we feel we have been better prepared for the weeks ahead. At present we know schools will be closed until at least 22nd February but with the data looking worse as the days pass it is likely students could be working at home into next half term too. It is vital that we keep them learning and in a good routine. We have moved all lessons back to our old day structure with all students having the same break times.

Lesson 1 9:05am

Lesson 2 10:05am

Break 11:05am

Lesson 3 11:25am

Lunch 12:25pm

Lesson 4 1:10pm

Lesson 5 2:10pm



I know that our practical subjects are also setting tasks to complete at home such as cooking, art and DT. We are trying to make sure these are reasonable things that most students will be able to do at home. Similarly PE tasks suggest daily workouts, walks, runs or cycles. Students can choose to complete these after school if they wish. With so much time sat in front of a screen it is important that we encourage daily exercise, I know staff have been finding it challenging too!

Many lessons will require students to complete work and upload this back to their teacher or 'turn it in' on Google Classroom. We have placed links to video tutorial to this and other aspects of using Google Classroom on our website.

There will of course be times when teachers are unavailable for live lessons and in these cases they will set work clearly in E-praise and tasks will be available in Google Classroom to be completed in the lesson. Students are expected to complete work in addition to lesson times, to finish tasks etc. but staff will not be setting significant amounts of additional homework.

If students want to find out more about a topic or revise a concept we will be adding links to sites such as BBC Bitesize and the 'Oak National Academy' as these resources are a great source of information. BBC TV on BBC2 and on the i-Player also have a wide range of programming that covers the KS3 and GCSE curriculum.

Schools will re-open, exams will return and students need to continue learning; we must not allow COVID to damage our children's future life chances by preventing them learning and progressing in education.

Generous donation of i-pad and laptop

On hearing that some students did not have the devices needed to access learning one local Market Weighton resident contacted the school to donate an almost new i-pad. It had been bought only recently but hardly used and the lady wanted it to go to someone who did not have the means to access home learning. Having signed up with a charity that encourages businesses to donate laptops to schools we have received a second device which we can now get out to a student who needs it.



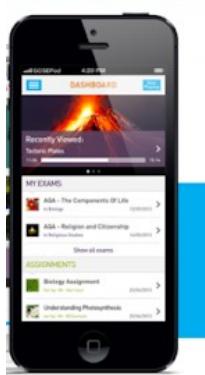
We have issued around 65 laptops to students in the past two weeks from our own stocks and those provided by the government. We know that there are still some students who are struggling sharing devices or trying to access work on a phone or games console which is not ideal. If anyone reading this has any old devices they could donate we would be very grateful and it would be helping another students and family access remote learning. We would ensure they are fully wiped of any data before they were re-issued.

Communicating Positive Test Results

If a student tests positive during lockdown it is still important to let us know at school even if they are working at home so we can confirm we do not have any contacts attending school who would need to self isolate.

Any students attending MUST stay at home if they or a member of your household have any symptoms or has tested positive in a routine COVID test. Lateral flow testing in school is NOT for those with symptoms. Testing in school is to check for un-symptomatic cases only.

Learn remotely; tools available for our students



GOT A MOBILE OR TABLET?

Watch or download podcasts, take them with you anywhere and improve your grades today!

[LEARN MORE ▶](#)



OAK
NATIONAL
ACADEMY

 hegartymaths



Student Collection and Drop Off Point



To support the ongoing completion of work at home we re-created the drop off and collection point inside the main entrance at school. This will allow items to be left for students to collect or items to be dropped off. Students can walk up on their own as part of their daily exercise, ideally after lessons online have finished, we are open from 7:00am to 5:30pm during lockdown. When collecting items please wear a face covering and use the sanitiser provided before and after sorting through

books. There are a large number of exercise books available to collect so please do try to call and collect them. Working in the exercise books for each subject will ensure notes are kept for revision later.

If you need anything message your teacher and they will arrange for the item to be left for you. We have also placed a stock of sanitary products in this area for anyone who needs them.



Read to Succeed

One thing we can all do during lockdown, is make sure we keep reading. In a normal school week students read for 20 minutes at least two mornings each week and during one English lesson. Once a book has been read students take a quiz on Accelerated Reader.

Students have access to this from home so can keep quizzing and reading whilst not in school. There will be a quiz for most children's and teenage fiction books and several non-fiction titles have also been made available online.

Follow the links from the Reading section on the website or from the student links page.

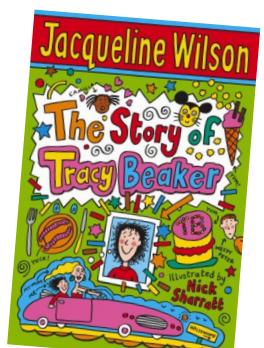


AcceleratedTM
Reader

Students will have access to a free book every week while schools remain closed through the Oak National Academy website.

Bestsellers by children's authors such as Jacqueline Wilson and David Walliams are available from today in a virtual library at the Oak National Academy

<https://library.thenational.academy/>



November 2020 Ofsted Remote Visit



During the Autumn Term, Ofsted conducted visits to schools to research the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children's education. We received a remote visit on 26th November, when inspectors held a number of meetings with senior staff and subject leaders in maths, English, history and PE. The full letter is available to read on the Ofsted website and via the Ofsted link on the school website.

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/23/118076>

The visit was not an inspection and the letter merely records some facts from the meetings which took place.

From this visit, inspectors noted that:

- *A small number of pupils were self-isolating at the time of the visit. Around two thirds of pupils have had to self-isolate and learn from home at some point since the beginning of term.*
- *Pupils in Years 7 to 10 are studying the usual range of subjects that make up the school's curriculum.*
- *Teachers in all subjects have assessed pupils' new starting points. You told us that you feel only a small proportion of pupils have gaps in their knowledge and understanding. Teachers are using the information from assessments to make changes to current curriculum plans, to help pupils to catch up.*
- *A small number of Year 11 pupils are no longer studying one of their chosen examination subjects. You explained that this is to provide more time for these pupils to rebuild their knowledge in other subjects.*
- *You have found that some pupils in Year 7 need support to rebuild their knowledge in writing. Additional teaching is being provided to these pupils. You have also introduced additional lessons for some pupils in Years 7 to 9 who need help with their reading, following the time they missed in school.*
- *Pupils who are self-isolating access education remotely. You explained that remote education covers similar content to the curriculum being taught in school. You told us that you have purchased additional resources to broaden the school's remote-education offer.*
- *Teachers have had training to help them to deliver education remotely. You have provided laptops and an internet connection for pupils who needed these to access remote education.*

This term inspectors are resuming monitoring inspections and we are likely to have a visit at TMWS at some point before Easter. At the time of any visit we will ask parents to give your views on the Ofsted Parent View website but if you can spare the time to share your views now that would be very helpful. I know how positive many of you have been about the quality of remote education offered during the past few weeks and it would be good to capture that for Ofsted to read as this will be a key focus of any monitoring visit. Remember if you ever have any concerns please raise them with the school in the first instance.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>



Lateral Flow COVID Testing in School

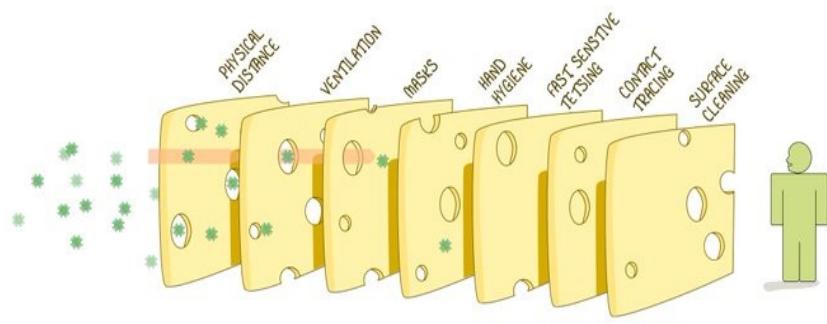
We will be starting to test all staff and students this week using the rapid lateral flow tests following the conversion of the school gym into a testing station. These tests are ONLY for those without symptoms. The aim is to identify individuals who have COVID but do not have symptoms, these un-symptomatic individuals could be unknowingly spreading COVID in school. The tests are reported to be between 50% and 80% effective at identifying these cases, if they detect a positive you must get another COVID test done at a test center or order a home test kit. The lateral flow tests rarely give false positives.

This means even with in school testing we could still have staff or students in school with COVID but no symptoms as the tests will miss at least 2/10 cases. They will however remove at least 5/10 and so are worth doing to add an additional layer of safety. We must maintain all our other procedures to keep staff and students safe. Each procedure we have in place adds a layer of protection, likened to a layer of Swiss cheese in the model.

The graphic below shows what to expect when undergoing a lateral flow COVID test. We are awaiting government advice on if testing of all students will remain part of the strategy to get all students back into school.

THE SWISS CHEESE RESPIRATORY VIRUS DEFENCE

RECOGNISING THAT NO SINGLE INTERVENTION IS PERFECT



EACH INTERVENTION (LAYER) HAS FAILINGS (HOLES).
MULTIPLE LAYERS REDUCE THEIR IMPACT.

Tan M Hickey
VIROLOGYDOCUMENT.COM
Derived from @SKETCHPLANNER
Version 1.0
Update: 11Oct2020



NHS
Test and Trace

HOW TO DO YOUR TEST

WHILE THIS IS A SELF-SWAB TEST, THERE WILL BE A TESTING HELPER WHO WILL OVERSEE THINGS AND PROVIDE HELP IF YOU NEED



Free school meals update and other support

'Edenred' vouchers will be issued again to all parents of children in receipt of free school meals (who are working at home) from Monday 18th January 2021. We will not be offering our grab bag service after this time. We recognise that vouchers are by far the easiest way for parents to buy the food their child will eat. As we have seen this week, it is very difficult to decide what should be part of a food box for lunch. In order to receive your vouchers it is essential that we have you up to date e-mail address.

If you have any other concerns or are struggling in this difficult time our pastoral staff are there to support you and can help you access **support from a range of services**. East Riding of Yorkshire Council have funds available to support families with details available on our website with links to access support.

<https://www.themarketweightonschool.co.uk/free-school-meals-eligibility-arrangements-important-issues/>

We have received 62 laptops from the government scheme which are all out with students ensuring they can access on line learning. We have issued additional laptops from our own stock and those that have been donated. There are a few students that we know still do not have the access they need and we are trying to find solutions for these families.

Examinations Summer 2021: Give your views

We know that exams are cancelled and that teachers will be providing grades for our students again this summer BUT what is not yet decided is how teachers will be told to determine those grades.

The government are consulting with teachers, parents and students on a number of proposals and until we know what will be used to determine grades it is essential that our students continue with all coursework and prepare for exams in June.

What ever option the government choose we will need our students to complete past papers as 'mocks' or internal assessments to give teachers the evidence needed. We only started our mocks just before Christmas having delayed them to allow students to catch up with learning missed in the first lockdown.

If you want to give your views on what should happen now follow the link below to the consultation and give your response online, you have until 29th January to respond.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

Consultation on how GCSE, AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021

Published 15 January 2021
Last updated 15 January 2021 — [see all updates](#)
From: [Ofqual](#) and [Department for Education](#)

Applies to: England

Summary

The approach to awarding GCSE, AS and A level grades in 2021 following the cancellation of exams.

This consultation closes at
11:45pm on 29 January 2021

Consultation description

Government decided that schools and colleges must close to most, to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Through this joint consultation, Ofqual and the Department for Education want to hear the views of students who were due to take their exams, their parents and carers, their teachers, school and college leaders and others who have an interest, including further and higher education providers, and employers. The consultation covers general and vocational qualifications, with this document focusing on the former.

Wall of Excellence - Rewarding 'Industry'

Students who have had a piece of work chosen for the “wall of excellence” are published in our newsletters. Their work is then displayed on a dedicated noticeboard in school to showcase their achievements. As a reward, these students will be credited with £2.00 on their School Gateway account. Parents receive a letter home to highlight how well they are doing. Please encourage your child to produce their best possible work and hopefully their hard work and industry will be rewarded.

House km challenge

As part of our house sports competitions this year and over lockdown we are setting a km challenge.

Every km you walk, run or cycle will get you a point for your house. This is for both staff and students.

Use the form below to submit your km the challenge started on Friday so any kms you clocked up over the weekend and this week all count.

<https://forms.gle/1CAW4ym57ftrhfgUA>

Any issues please E-Praise message Mrs Townend your kms and your house to log.

I am logging as I go or you can do a weeks worth of km in one go.

1 km is better than none.





CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.



Social Media Reminder

TMWS now has both Twitter and Facebook pages, please like and follow us to get our web updates straight to your phone.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES.....

Term Dates 2020-2021

Autumn Term	7 September to 18 December
Staff Training Day (<i>Students not in</i>)	23 October
Half Term	26 October to 30 October
Spring Term	4 January to 26 March
Staff Training Day	4 January
Half Term	15 February to 19 February
Easter	29 March to 9 April
Summer Term	12 April to 26 July
Staff Training Day	12 April
Half Term	31 May to 4 June
Staff Training (<i>Students not in</i>)	26 July



To note students are not in school on staff training days.

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