

27 April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 12 End of Year Internal examination information

The Year 12 end of year exams are taking place from the 2nd to the 11th of May with a day of catch-up exams on Friday 12th May as required. During the examination period, students will not be required to attend lessons. However, due to the coursework-based nature of the subjects, all students who take vocational (BTEC) subjects may be required to attend lessons and their teachers will have communicated with them the expectations about attending during the exam period. Year 12 students will resume normal lessons on Monday 15th May.

These exams are an important milestone in the sixth form journey, giving students the opportunity to experience preparing for substantive exams, and enabling teachers to assess students' progress with the course content. The grades that students achieve in the Year 12 exams are used to inform the reference grades that are needed for future applications, including university, apprenticeships, and work.

If a student is ill and unable to attend school, we ask that a parent/guardian or a health-professional contacts the school with details of the illness. We cannot accept self-certification of absences from students. If you need to contact the school about an absence on the day of an internal exam, please contact our Sixth Form attendance officer, Mrs Walton, elizabeth.walton@astrea-longsands.org, on the morning of the exam. As long as students have a valid reason for their absence that has been communicated with school, they will be able to sit the paper later during the fortnight.

In order to help prepare students for the seriousness of the final exams next year, if a student fails to attend an internal exam, without a significant reason, they will be awarded zero marks and a U grade for that paper.

Failing to pass a subject

If a student fails to pass their End of Year exams in any subject, they will be offered the opportunity to sit a new paper towards the end of June 2023. The resits will be limited to a pass or fail mark and serve the purpose of making sure that every student is ready for Year 13. Should a student fail their resit exam, the Sixth Form team will arrange a review meeting with the student and a parent/guardian. In this meeting we will discuss all of the options available, including resitting Year 12, sitting another paper in the Autumn term (if very close to passing), dropping a subject, and restarting with a new provider.

External exams

There are a small number of external exams taking place for a few Year 12 students. Where these exams occur outside of the exam fortnight, students may take the half day before the exam off lessons to help prepare for the exam. Where students have a morning exam, we expect students to attend their lessons the same afternoon.

We have attached the Year 12 exam timetable and a copy of the Revision Techniques That Work booklet, written by Dr Cullen. We will send parents and guardians the results from the End of Year exams at the start of June 2023. Thank you for your ongoing support and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.



**LONGSANDS
SIXTH FORM**

Astrea Academy Trust
INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

LONGSANDS SIXTH FORM

Longsands Road
St Neots
PE19 1LQ

01480 353535

www.longsandsixthform.org
enquiries@astrea-longsands.org

Yours sincerely

Ms D Gordon
Associate Vice Principal:
Head of Sixth Form

Dr D Cullen
Head of Year 12