



Ashton Community Science College

'a school to be proud of'

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Dear Parent/Guardian of Year 11,

As your children come to the end of their time at Ashton Community Science College, may I take the opportunity to thank you and to thank them for all their hard work over the years. The resilience and determination they have shown to overcome the barriers placed in front of them over the last 14 months has been exceptional and they have done themselves and all of us proud.

Despite missing a large period of time in school, I have been impressed with their character and sense of community. Each student will leave Ashton knowing that their next role is to take that work ethic and community pride into the wider community, developing their roots and blossoming as they continue to grow.

Remaining weeks

As there is no formal exam season this year, the end to their formal school time is slightly different to usual.

Department for Education statutory guidance is that Year 11 students will leave school and be taken off roll after Friday 25th June. In line with this, all Preston schools have agreed that provision after Friday 28th May will be accessed remotely and will focus on preparation for the next phase of your child's education. An excellent booklet entitled "Key Stage 4 to Key Stage 5 Transition" has been shared with your child in the year 11 Teams folder and is also available on the school website. [Year 11 Useful Information | Ashton Community Science College \(ashtoncsc.lancs.sch.uk\)](http://www.ashtoncsc.lancs.sch.uk). This booklet provides transition information for each of our Sixth Form colleges, including links to the curriculum areas your child has chosen to study next year. I would strongly recommend that your child accesses this information as it will provide them with a strong foundation on which to begin their studies in September. If your child requires any additional support from school, for example with Careers and Education guidance, please contact Mrs Allan or Mrs Long, who will be happy to facilitate this.

There is no requirement then for most Year 11 students to attend face to face timetabled lessons after 28th May as learning will turn remote after the half term break. However, from Monday 7th June we are holding specific sessions for specific students which they will need to continue to attend. Should your child be required to attend we will contact you directly. This will give those students involved the opportunity to provide any last evidence for their final grade. If your child is requested to attend during this period, they are required to wear



full school uniform and come in for those specific sessions only. Once the session has concluded they should return home and continue with the “Key stage 4 to Key stage 5 transition” package.

Gathering the evidence and completing their assessments can be an intense experience for all the family. I advise the students to revise regularly for short amounts of time, to take breaks and to make sure they are hydrated. I have shared with the students that this will be a difficult few weeks, but the benefits of putting the work in now are worth it for the feeling of elation when it is over. They do have to work hard but it will be worth it. As always, if you are worried about your child, please don't hesitate to contact any one of us at school.

AshFest

Due to the current Covid-19 climate and the uncertainty not only over the last 14 months, but also ahead in the coming months, we will not be organising a prom for our leavers this year. We understand it has been a difficult year for families up and down the country both emotionally and financially and lots of young people have missed out on lots of experiences. We didn't feel it was right to organise a formal prom at this time, but we did want to do something that marked the occasion and celebrated 5 years of being part of the Ashton family. Following dialogue with our student leadership team we have decided to organise our very own AshFest!

On Friday 28th May – the last day of this half term - we will be providing a get together, at Ashton CSC for all Year 11 students. The event will be organised and funded by the school, meaning there will be no costs to parents and students. It will be a festival style event to celebrate their time together, share some food, dance to music from a playlist they have chosen, sign each other's shirts and write good luck messages in their year books before heading into the half term break. Students are invited to come into school in their own clothes that day and celebrate after school with all of their peers and teachers. The festival will run from 3pm and end at 5:30pm.

I hope you agree that this is a fitting way to mark the end of their time with us, under the current restrictions. It is our first festival and we are excited that our current year 11 cohort will be the trailblazers. I do have to ask for your support though with the dress code. Although it is a festival theme, we are still in school and therefore do request that all students are appropriately dressed, with no offensive or extreme items of clothing and no clothing that is revealing or unsuitable for school. Students who don't comply with this request will be asked to return home and potentially will lose their opportunity to attend.

As with any formal event, a student may lose their right to attend if their behaviour over the coming weeks isn't in line with the high standards they have already set.

Leavers book

Following requests from the student leadership team we have designed and created a 2021 Leavers Book to be proud of. Each book has been professionally designed and printed providing a look back over the last 5 years. We recommend each student has one as a memento of their time here at Ashton. Books cost just £3 and can be paid for on ParentPay, or to Mrs Allan. The deadline for payments is the 27th May.

Results Day

Results day this year is Thursday 12th August. Students can collect their results from school between 9am and 11am from The Hive. Unfortunately, we cannot give results out over the telephone, nor to anyone other than the child themselves. In exceptional circumstances and by prior arrangement we can release results to a named third party. Please contact Miss Koerten our exams officer to discuss this if this is an option you need to pursue.

Donation of Uniform

We are a community school and work with a wide range of families throughout Ashton and the local area. Should you have any uniform that your child will not need or wear following their last official day, please could I request you donate it to the school and we can share this out to support those families in need.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Asquith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Miss S Asquith
Headteacher