



Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

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Inspiring Excellence Together

In preparation for Year 11 Parents' Evening tomorrow

Thank you to all parents that have made appointments for tomorrow's Year 11 Virtual Parent's Evening. We thought that as the appointments are a rigid 5 minutes due to technical side of the system, it would be good to try and answer some potential questions before the appointments if we can so that the time can be used effectively. If you are not able to attend the Parents' Evening then these will also be useful. We look forward to seeing those to have appointments tomorrow.

As a reminder the website is <https://montgomeryacademy.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

You will have needed to log in previously before your appointments. If you have not logged in so far then all you need is

- Parent/Carer Firstname and Surname
- Email address
- Student Name and Date of Birth

We have had some parents anxious about attending an online video. They have been reassured that they do not need to have their camera on. This video shows what it is like from a parent's perspective. The first part of it is about changing appointments, so you might want to start at 4:35 in.

<https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>

Potential questions you may have and our answers where we can give them at the moment

- What is happening with the exams?
 - All summer exams are cancelled
 - Grades will be centre-assessed as last year
 - There will be no 'algorithm' applied but there will be external moderation of the grades and work submitted by Exam Boards and the Multi-academy Trust. Each grade will be moderated by at least subject teams, SLT and the MAT
 - It has been suggested that 'mini-exams' will be produced by the Exam boards for schools to use to help determine a student's centre-assessed grade. It is still being decided if these should be compulsory
 - These mini-exams could be done in a classroom and there will be some flexibility of when they can be done, dependent on when Year 11 return and if a student is self-isolating
 - We are still waiting to hear some clarification on which parts of the syllabus will not be examined
 - It is clearly extremely important that students continue to work hard

- Why are you not doing live lessons?
 - We strongly believe that recorded lessons are better than live lessons as
 - It does not tie students or staff to 5 hours at a computer every day and therefore better for mental wellbeing. Some schools are now moving away from live lessons because of this.
 - Students can go over the work at their own pace, rewind, revisit, x2 speed
 - Students who have to share devices at home are not disadvantaged
 - We will be looking to develop our remote learning further as we go
- Why have you not told me that they have not been working?
 - We have been texting parents of students that have not logged on to Google Classroom over the last two weeks, but we are not happy with this as the only method of measuring engagement
 - Our system (Google) does not easily give us detailed engagement data, therefore we are working hard to use Class Charts to do this for us at some point. We have been using this system to record ambition points over the last few weeks and 63% of parents have the App downloaded. Hopefully, the new system will be in place before the end of next week.
 - We do need students to continue to 'Hand in' their work on GC even if they have emailed the work to the teacher
- When do we think they will be back?
 - We are not expecting to back straight after half-term, there was a suggestion it could be as late as Easter. We really don't know.
 - Year 11 are expected to return before other year groups
- Will coursework worked on previously or currently still count?
 - It is very likely to count towards their final Centre Assessed Grade so students should continue to work on coursework already started and await instructions from their teacher about further pieces
 - BTEC Travel & Tourism, BTEC Enterprise & BTEC Construction have already or are about to start their coursework. Students should be working on these now
- What if my child missed their mock exam?
 - We are looking into how we can address this safely
- Some students are in school - can my son/daughter attend? I cannot get them to get up in the morning
 - Current Government Guidance is that even critical worker parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can
 - The facility is a last resort for vulnerable families and essential critical workers where the student cannot stay at home - the flexibility of our remote learning means that students CAN still complete the work on their schedule

Yours sincerely,



Mr Careless
Headteacher