

10th June 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: D&T GCSE NEA 2020-2021 – Introduction

Classes: 10A/Gr1, 10B/Pd1 and 10C/Tx1

I am writing to inform you on just how well your daughter is coping under our new working circumstances due to Covid 19. The girls have been doing an amazing job, engaging with all lessons delivered and from their PPE results, which were taken under exceptional circumstances, they have produced some fantastic results. This is heartening to see considering the situation we find ourselves in.

Despite the current uncertainty, we do need to start to deliver the Non Examination Assignment (NEA) in your daughter's Design & Technology (D&T) GCSE. The NEA contextual challenge is launched on the 1st June annually, we will start to work on the NEA in your daughter's lessons this term, and the NEA is worth 50% of her GCSE. This is an examination and the students are expected to work independently with guidance from their teachers. Sections 1, 2 & 4 of the project are medium control, which means they can work at home and at school. Section 3 is to be completed at school only, in the workshops. We envisage we will be able to deliver all of the elements of this project through a combination of the weekly face-to-face lessons and through our live and remote lessons from next week - 15/6/20.

This project will run from June through until February/March 2021. I have included deadline dates that we have set out for each section of the project, there are four in total.

	Due date	Marks allocated	School weeks allocated (no holidays have been taken into account).
Section 1– Investigation Research	21/9/2020	16 marks	9 weeks
Section 2 – Design & Development	4/12/2020	42 marks	10 weeks
Section 3 - Manufacture	1/3/21	36 marks	9 weeks
Exhibition week - testing and feedback	1/3/21	6 marks	1 week
Section 4 Testing and Evaluation - Final submission of all work	22/3/21		2 weeks

All students will be provided with copies of these dates alongside the marking criteria and they can access these via the N Drive.

At later stages of the project they will require to access the workshops to complete practical work, this will be available to them under staff supervision based on criteria we are establishing for working under our current situation.

We do not anticipate students will fall behind with the NEA deadlines despite the current situation, however if this does occur then we will offer sessions for your daughter to catch up after school. Additional support is also available through e-mail and in our various format of lessons in our current situation.

I have high expectations for all students in their D&T GCSE even under our current situation, I know that the girls will be able to achieve exceptional results through their hard work and positive engagement, and we look forward to your support encouraging your daughter to keep on track for all of the submission dates.

Thank you in advance.

Yours sincerely



Therese Williams
Head of Faculty - Design & Technology and Food