



Wednesday 20 May 2026

Dear Parent / Carer and Year 10 students

## **Year 10 and 11 Assessment Update (2026–2027 Academic Year)**

Thank you to those that attended our Year 10 Information Evening on Monday. The slides from the presentation have been uploaded to our website and can be found [here](#). Further to the information shared on Monday, we are writing to provide more detail about updates to assessment in Years 10 and 11. Following a trust-wide review, we have refined our assessment approach to ensure it supports high-quality teaching, reduces unnecessary workload, and maintains flexibility for schools to sequence their curriculum effectively.

These changes are designed to maximise teaching time for staff and students. By reducing the number of large assessment windows, we can make sure students spend more time learning in class and experience fewer disruptions caused by extended exam periods.

### **Removal of November Year 11 Mock Examination Window**

We will no longer run an additional exam window in Year 11. Students will instead sit:

- **Year 10 Summer Benchmark Exams (June)**
- **Year 11 Benchmark Exams (January)**
- **Year 11 Summer Final Exams (May)**

This adjustment increases available teaching time and removes the disruption of an extra mock exam series.

### **Year 10 Summative Benchmark Exams in June**

All Year 10 students will sit a set of summative benchmark examinations in June, covering all taught content to that point.

We will:

- Report **percentage scores** home at the end of the summer term.
- Use these scores, along with ongoing classwork and assessment from Year 10 to benchmark student progress and to generate **end of course prediction (ECP) grades** at the start of Year 11.

These predicted grades will be used for **post-16 applications**.



## **No Standalone GCSE Grades from Year 10 Exams**

We will not issue GCSE grades based solely on the Year 10 exam series. At this stage of the course, students have typically completed only around half of the curriculum. This means:

- They sit only a proportion of the final examination papers.
- Converting raw marks to meaningful grades is unreliable.

Instead, predicted grades (ECPs) issued in September will combine exam scores with broader teacher assessment, providing a more accurate picture of students' likely outcomes.

## **Benefits from our Trust Wide capacity**

As the Trust has grown, our subject leaders and Curriculum Directors now work together more closely. This enables us to:

- Use aligned assessment information across schools.
- Strengthen trust wide accuracy of predictions.
- Target intervention more effectively in core subjects.

## ***Rationales for Change***

### **Improving Teaching and Learning Time**

By removing an additional mock exam window:

- Students spend **more time in lessons**, resulting in deeper learning.
- Teachers gain **more capacity** to focus on high quality planning, feedback, and intervention rather than exam administration and marking.
- Schools retain calendar flexibility for drop-down days, enrichment, and targeted intervention.

### **Reducing Workload for Staff and Students**

Large mock exam series require significant time for:

- Preparing exam papers
- Organising exam spaces and staffing
- Marking multiple full sets of papers

Reducing one exam window is a meaningful step towards **positively impacting workload** and prioritising what matters most: learning.

Below is an overview of the key dates and deadlines for Year 10 and 11 which highlights when information will be shared with home and when summative exams will be sat. Students will **continue to undertake ongoing assessment in lessons** which will support the teacher to understand their progress and any gaps that need to be picked up.

<b>Week Commencing</b>	<b>Activity</b>
22nd June 2026	Year 10 Exams Start
13th July 2026	Y10 Reports home with Percentage scores from Exams
14th September 2026	Y11 Reports home with Predicted Grades (ECPs)
21st September 2026	Y11 Tutor Interviews to discuss predictions and next steps
7th December 2026	Y11 Tutor Interviews discussing progress and Exam preparation
11th January 2027	Y11 Exams Start
1st March 2027	Y11 Reports home with Predicted Grades
8th March 2027	Y11 Tutor Interviews to discuss predictions and next steps
10th May 2027	Y11 Exams Start
17th August 2027	Y11 Exam Results Released on <b>Thursday 20th August 2027</b>

If you have any further queries relating to Year 10/11 assessments, please contact [HBodily@lincroft.academy](mailto:HBodily@lincroft.academy).

Yours faithfully

Ms E Appadoo  
**Principal**

Miss H Bodily  
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