

Westbourne Academy

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Principal - Mr Garry Trott

Our ref: JBU/EPE

28 November 2017

Dear Parent

NEA Assessment in Computer Science

As part of the new GCSE in Computer Science your son/daughter is undertaking non-examined assessment (NEA) formerly known as Controlled Assessment. This accounts for 20% of their final GCSE grade. Students started their non-exam assessment in September 2017.

You may have seen in the news this week that the regulatory body for exam practice has announced a consultation on revised assessment arrangements for GCSE Computer Science. This is a result of breaches in examination practice, not linked to our students at Westbourne Academy. They have become aware that, contrary to the exam boards' rules, the tasks and solutions to them were being discussed in online forums.

As a result of the consultation, the body will decide how they will address the breaches in assessment practice. They are considering three options:

1. Making non-exam assessment no longer count towards a student's 9 to 1 grade in GCSE computer science; their grade would instead be based on their performance in their exams alone.
2. Continuing to require all students to complete one of the non-exam assessment tasks set by the exam boards to meet the curriculum requirements of the course.
3. No longer requiring teachers to formally mark the task, or provide marks for the task to the exam board. But they would be able to use the task – a significant piece of work - to provide formative feedback to students, strengthening their knowledge, skills and understanding, and better preparing them for their exams.

The results of the consultation are due in the week commencing 8 January 2018. In the meantime, we have been advised to continue to work on the NEA as normal. If you have any questions or would like to know more, then please contact Mr Burrows, the Computing Team Leader on 01473-466143 or jonathan.burriows@westbourne.attrust.org.uk.

Yours sincerely



M Bouckley
Vice Principal





This is a letter about important school information. If you are unable to read this information because English is not your first language, please ask someone who speaks English to contact the school on 01473 742315 or email office@westbourne.atrust.org.uk

Lietuvių kalba/Lithuanian - Informacija/General information

Tai laiškas apie svarbią mokyklos informaciją. Jei negalite perskaityti šios informacijos, nes anglų nėra jūsų gimtoji kalba, kreipkitės į ką nors, kas kalba angliškai arba kreipkitės į mokyklą 01473 742315 arba el office@westbourne.atrust.org.uk

Polski/Polish - Informacja/information

Jest to pismo o ważnych informacjach o szkole. Jeśli nie możesz przeczytać tej informacji, ponieważ angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem, poproś kogoś, kto mówi po angielsku, lub skontaktuj się ze szkołą 01473 742315 lub e-mail office@westbourne.atrust.org.uk

Em português /Portuguese - Informações/information

Esta é uma carta sobre informações importantes sobre a escola. Se você é incapaz de ler esta informação, porque o Inglês não é sua língua nativa, por favor, pergunte a alguém que fala Inglês deve contactar a escola 01473 742315 ou e-mail office@westbourne.atrust.org.uk

Limba română/Romanian - Informații/ General information letter

Aceasta este o scrisoare cu privire la informații importante școlare. Dacă nu puteți citi această informație pentru că engleza nu este prima limbă, vă rugăm să întrebați pe cineva care vorbește limba engleză trebuie să contacteze școala 01473 742315 sau e-mail office@westbourne.atrust.org.uk