

01/06/2020

Dear students, parents & guardians,

Welcome to the final term for this academic year! I'm sure you will all agree that, despite us being in lockdown for the past 11 weeks, the academic year has passed very quickly! We have enjoyed some great gigs, workshops and other events throughout the year and although we all share the disappointment of not being able to continue studying full time in SupaJam or attending the Black Deer festival, there is much to look forward to.

We are now working towards the end of this year and as you all know, the RSL curriculum will be brought to a close from the 12th June. I can confirm that this will also apply to Functional Skills and the last teaching day of English & Maths will be Friday 5th June; however, our academic year will continue. This is because SupaJam has to collate information and evidence of student work throughout the year to provide what is known as 'Centre Assessment Grades'. It mainly applies to students who are leaving us this year as well as those who were on track to complete their Functional Skill qualifications this year. Your Functional Skills tutors may ask for you to complete certain types of work throughout this week to help with this evidence portfolio - please try your hardest to work with them if you are asked to do so.

For everyone else, you will continue your Functional Skills qualifications next year. Your tutor will tell you this week if you need to do anything.

So what next?

We are planning how to provide learning and practical opportunities both online and within the bases to all students after the final RSL and Functional Skills completion date. We understand that some of you may be anxious about leaving your homes to come in and we are not forcing anyone to do this. What we would like to know is whether you want to come in to Swanley or Canterbury to engage in activities or remain at home and continue with online activities. Please can you let Ashley Foreman know as soon as possible, but by Monday 8th June at the latest - via email (Ashley.foreman@semmuk.com) or calling the Swanley line (01322 660845) as to whether you would like to attend SupaJam or remain at home.

I have included some FAQs on the following page.

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FAQs

Will I know my predicted grade? No, we are not allowed to share with you the Centre Assessment Grades for RSL and Functional Skills. This is because they have to go through moderation by RSL and NCFE. Grades will be released on or after the 13th August 2020.

What if I haven't done as much work in RSL? SupaJam has to create Centre Assessment Grades based on work that has already been completed. RSL will then look at the grades we have given and consider what work has been completed. The moderation process will determine if you have completed enough work and this is therefore out of SupaJam's control. That is why it is really important to try and complete as much as possible.

What if I don't pass this year? We hope that the hard work you all put in means that you are able to pass and the staff working with you are trying really hard to support you with completing as much as possible. If you do not pass this year, I understand that this would be disappointing for you but we would love for you to come back and try again. It's really important to not become too disheartened and embrace a difficult situation as a new challenge.

I've completed my speaking & listening exam this year, what happens with the rest of my grades in Functional Skills English? The Functional Skills team have been working closely together to gather as much evidence as possible. For those who are returning next year and were due to complete your qualification over 2 years, you should be able to complete the other assessments next year. For those who were due to pass this year, SupaJam will offer Centre Assessment Grades for each area.

What activities will we be doing after 12th June? We have lots of creative staff who are currently working on a varied program of choices - practical music opportunities, games, music theory workshops, online music lessons. This is why we need to know who would like to come in if there is the possibility to do so in order that we can plan these activities.

Do I have to keep attending after 12th June if I'm not completing any work? Yes! The academic year is due to end on the 24th July. Just because we are not completing RSL or Functional Skills work, we are still working together until July. I really want all of you to continue working with us and engage in activities until the 24th July and it is important that you all join us to continue your learning.

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