



3 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As you are aware, the Government have confirmed that schools will not return to face to face education until after half term, with current restrictions on school opening remaining in place until at least 8 March. We are expecting a Government review of the situation in the week commencing 22 February, which we hope will be able to clarify the situation.

We have considered carefully about when to hold the Pre Public Exams (PPEs) in light of the exam cancellation. The announcement that was made last week around school re-opening, gives no further certainty around timescales and gives us concern over further delay. Equally, it would be preferable for students to sit these in school.

We have decided that if we know, during the week commencing 22 February, that Year 13 will return to school on the 8 March, then we will hold the PPEs in school in that week commencing 8 March.

If students are not going to be back on this date, then the PPEs will take place **remotely** in the week commencing 1 March. (This is the date that we had set out in a previous letter). If this is the case, then we will write to you and your child nearer the time to explain how this process will work. Please rest assured that if your child has not got access to appropriate IT facilities, then we will make arrangements so that no student is disadvantaged.

The OFQAL consultation ended on 29 January. They and the DFE are now considering how the grading of students will work in practice and what evidence teachers can and should use. I am aware that some students and parents are concerned that we will use the PPEs as replacements for the exams that were due to take place in the summer. These will be just one of the Common Assessment Tasks (CATs) used, alongside other evidence to award grades. It should be noted that in a normal year the PPE grades are used as an indicator for student performance and we would expect to see an improvement in grades by the summer exams. This year's PPEs will be no different. As well as the PPEs, the other CATs will include tests and exams already completed, assessments completed by each subject and Non-examined assessments (NEA) where these exist in the subject (for example in English, Art, Geography etc).

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how hard Year 13 are working and how impressed staff are at students' commitment and dedication to their online studies. I will be writing to all students but can you please remind your child that they should continue to work on their NEA if this is applicable? If they experience any difficulties then they should message their teacher. Can you also remind them that they need to continue to prepare for the PPEs? All new content delivery will cease from the week commencing 8 February where lessons will be dedicated to revision. The PPEs will only be on content that was delivered before Christmas.

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Headteacher: Mr Paul Clayton





**GUISELEY
SCHOOL**

We will be in contact again shortly after the half term holidays. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns then please contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

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Stuart Gadd
Assistant Head Teacher
Director of KS5

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