



18 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We wrote to you last week about the Pre Public Exams (PPEs), these were formally known as mock exams, and our potential plans. As you are aware the Government has announced that the summer exams will not be taking place and that students will be awarded grades based on their teacher's assessment. Details of how this will work in practice have yet to be announced. There is a lot of speculation in the press but nothing has been confirmed. From last year's experience, we know how important it is that any centre assessed grade is based on a range of secure assessment information. One of the DFE recognised sources of this information will be the Year 13 PPEs.

With this in mind, we have taken the decision to confirm that the Year 13 PPEs will take place on the week commencing 1 March. They will take place during this week regardless of future Government decisions regarding students return to school or the result of the current consultation process on the nature of centre assessment. If students are back in school by 1 March, then the exams will take place in school under our usual exam conditions. If partial closure is still in place then we will make arrangements where students can take the exams at home, with procedures in place to maintain their integrity.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how impressed I have been by all Year 13 students' commitment and dedication to our new remote learning system. I have received many comments from staff stating the same thing and telling me how much work that students are doing to ensure that they are learning. We will continue with this successful model as long as students are not in school. Working in this way will ensure that they complete each course and are fully prepared for their next step.

I am aware that this is a difficult time for Year 13 and the stress and anxiety that this has put on students is not to be underestimated. This week we will be continuing our well-being Teams chats or phone calls with individuals, to check that every student is coping and offering support where we can.

If you have any questions about the content of this letter or if you have any concerns about the well-being of your child please do contact me.

Yours sincerely

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Director of KS5

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