

3rd December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are aware that there has been a government announcement today about how the exam season may be altered to support year 11 students. Whilst some initial headline details have been provided we will await the specific guidance from each of the examination boards that will arrive in due course. Please note that the announcement includes the headline that 'exams might also take place in July'. We therefore advise caution when booking holidays during this period and we will communicate this as soon as we know the details and the dates.

During the school day on Friday 4th December senior staff will speak to each Y11 class to help explain what is known so far from the announcement, answer any questions and allay some of the fears around the exams.

This is already a stressful time for everyone, managing the social distancing and the uncertainty, so we are hoping that the announcement today will allow us to begin to plan the next few months carefully for your child. The range of measures are designed to support students. It is likely that some measures will help certain students more than others, therefore we will continue to do everything we can to give all of our students the best chance to succeed.

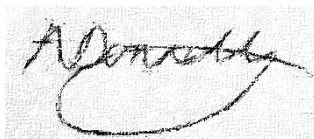
When the full details from the examinations boards are announced, we will then work with our Heads of Department to put together a plan for the remainder of the year and share the key information with you and your child. We know that there will be an urgency to get answers, but I can assure you that we will do everything we can to keep the children safe and well, prepared and ready for whatever the exam season looks like. It is clear there will be some alterations required to what we do, as well as a responsibility to use the online platforms to keep learning and revisiting prior learning. Our students have been brilliant in their work over lockdown and their attitude since returning. I am confident that whatever the government decides, we are strongly placed to make sure our students thrive and succeed.

I would ask you to keep talking to your child, encourage them to revisit the work covered, accessing Teams and Satchel One as a matter of routine each day, establish good study routines and recognise the importance of keeping safe in and out of school. If you have any questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Tom Cubbon
Deputy Headteacher



Alison Donnelly
Assistant Headteacher