



18th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, can I thank you for your continued support in encouraging your child to engage with the remote learning programme currently in operation.

We are very pleased with the excellent attitude to learning so many of our students are displaying and we hope that the remote learning programme continues to offer a high quality educational support during the schools closure. The feedback we have received has been very positive.

We are currently introducing more live lessons across the curriculum to try and further engage our students and to ensure that our students are receiving quality feedback which is helping to move their learning forward and bridge any knowledge gaps as we go along.

This week we have welcomed back many of our Yr 10 students who have shown maturity and positivity when conducting themselves in a safe and sensible manner in and around the building. We appreciate that this has been an anxious time for both staff and students so we are pleased that this transition has run smoothly.

We do not know what September will look like for our students and therefore it is key that we review our current online learning provision and look at ways to further improve this provision for our students.

Had we been in school we would normally have been planning end of year assessment and exams for our students at this time. Having considered this in light of the unusual current circumstances, we feel it is important to continue with an adapted plan to accommodate this. We intend to offer a modified Exams and assessment week running from the **2nd July to the 12th July**. This will be instead of scheduled lessons during that time. Revision sessions and further guidance will be offered in the lessons preceding the examinations week.

The end of year assessments and exams for lower years will be an opportunity to review how well pupils have retained knowledge from earlier in the academic year and allow us to review how students have adjusted to the online provision since the forced school closure. This will take a different format depending on the subjects as appropriate; formal exam, essay, quiz, presentation, practical etc.

The main basis for the assessment outcomes is to allow us to assess knowledge, identify knowledge gaps and misconceptions to enable us to plan ahead to support further learning. These findings are predominantly a supportive measure rather than judgemental as we fully appreciate that the access to IT, home learning support and conducive learning environments between pupil experiences may be

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very different and we do not want pupils to be unfairly disadvantaged. Consequently, these grades, for Yr 7, 8 and 9 will be used for internal purposes only and any highlights or concerns shared with parents where relevant.

As we are unclear how exams will be administered next academic year for our current Yr 10 pupils, it is essential that we begin to gather evidence of performance in order to be able to track progress and introduce timely supportive interventions. The Summer assessments and exams may be required as sources of future evidence for exam entries, therefore it is essential that you encourage your child to complete these conscientiously with commitment and effort. Please be reassured that even if they highlight under performance they may also be used to show improvements made overtime at a later point.

The details of the exam timetable schedule will be shared shortly. We will endeavour to allow a reasonable time slot for submission to support households where more than one pupil may require access to IT facilities. We would welcome your support in ensuring that your child completes examinations independently in order for us to appropriately gauge their understanding and determine future needs.

Kind regards,

Linda Hanson

Headteacher

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