

Friday 20 March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers of Year 11 students,

We are sure everyone is aware that public exams have been cancelled and that the Government is promising that suitable measures will be put in place. The current stance from the Education Secretary is that the aim is to issue children in England with grades in August under a "different process and different system". This is a difficult time for all students, parents and staff but please be rest assured we will provide updates and information as soon as we are able to.

To all of our Year 11 students; remember you will be recognised for this, we are just waiting on clarification on how it is recognised. You also have to remember that you have all spent your five years of education growing into the wonderful and diligent individuals. This pandemic will go down in history and be taught to our future generations. Be proud of who you have all grown into, because as a school we most certainly are. It is who you are and how you use your skills that is important. This will ultimately give you more resilience than anyone around you. You have already stood out to us as unique, determined and confident individuals, so use this event in history as the platform for your own lives to shine from. Learning lasts forever and the whole world is now at your feet, go and show the world what incredible humans you all are.

We suggest that for now you carry on with all the work which is being set by your teachers and keep in contact with us and each other. We also know that part of being in Year 11 is your hard work being rewarded with an end of year leavers' celebration. In time we will make sure we celebrate together.

CHILDREN OF KEY WORKERS

We will of course be providing support to ensure that parents and carers who are key workers are able to go to work during this time of national emergency. We will be writing to those families later today with details of the arrangements that will begin from Monday. If, in light of the updated key workers' list you require support, please contact us at your earliest possible convenience.

There is, of course, no obligation for any child of a key worker to attend, but we will be offering the facility should anyone require it.

CONTINUATION OF SCHOOL WORK DURING CLOSURE

Show My Homework is the platform that we will use to set all work. We have already started to use this platform. This work is monitored by the senior leadership team, and we urge if you need any further support with this, that you contact the school. Initially we will be setting work up to Easter and will then write to you again with the approach from April onwards. We recognise that we will need to mark work and give feedback. For Year 10

students, we have thought carefully about the parts of the GCSE specifications we can deliver remotely.

COLLECTION OF SPARE MEDICINE HELD IN THE MEDICAL ROOM

If your child has spare medicine in the Medical room, we can aim for this to be collected from Monday. Please just contact the front office.

See below for arrangements for those self-isolating.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENTS IN SELF ISOLATION TO CLEAR LOCKERS

Any student currently in self-isolation will be able to come into school once their isolation is over to clear their locker and/or collect any spare medicines and their exercise books. Please email the front office to advise when this might be and we will advise a suitable day/time. On arrival please report to Reception.

COMMUNICATION DURING CLOSURE

We will be sending out a brief bulletin twice a week – on Mondays and then a Friday. We will stay in touch.

Finally, I am most grateful for the messages of support that a number of parents have sent in, these messages of support really prove how we are all coming together as a community, and as a school we feel incredibly supported by all of you, so thank you. Yours faithfully,

Robert Battle
Head of School

Libby Isaac
Head of School

Mark Barrow
Headteacher