

5<sup>th</sup> January 2021



Dear Parent/Carers

At 8pm yesterday Boris Johnson announced that the country will return to lockdown for at least another six weeks. This means that schools are physically closed to all students other than those deemed vulnerable, children of critical workers or those unable to access their remote learning from home.

As a result of this announcement, we will be making necessary changes to our remote learning offer. In line with our policy we will be switching to a teaching model which, in addition to our existing remote learning resources, encompasses pre-recorded sessions, live lessons via Google Meet and seminar style sessions via Google Meet. These will begin on a staggered basis to support our students' transition to this type of learning. From next week, students will be invited to attend live and/or pre-recorded lessons in English, Maths and Science. Once students have successfully engaged in these sessions, we will also roll out live learning and pre-recorded sessions for all other subjects. If your child does not have access to the necessary equipment to access remote learning it is **essential that you contact us** immediately so that we might ensure their continuity of education.

In addition to the announcement regarding the long term closure, Gavin Williamson also confirmed that *"GCSE and A level exams would not go ahead in their usual form and that he would be working with the qualifications regulator to confirm alternative arrangements"*. In light of this, it is prudent to assume that assessments for qualifications will continue in some form and we must encourage all our Year 11 students to continue to work remotely to the very best of their ability. We will continue to build a portfolio of evidence of our students' potential GCSE grades and therefore the work the students complete remotely has never been more important. Please support us in encouraging your son/daughter to maximise their remote learning opportunities.

A number of students have been asking about trial exam results. Please be assured, we will still be releasing our Year 11 students' trial exam results and their revised predicted grades on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as originally planned. However, in accordance with the 'Stay at Home' National policy, we will be sending these out to students electronically. Results will be sent out to the students' school email addresses and to parents via the email addresses we have registered on our systems.



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We will send out further information over the coming days. In the meantime, please can we once again thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support and kind messages during what is an incredibly difficult time for everyone.

With warmest wishes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MB", written over a horizontal line.

Ms Britton  
Deputy Headteacher