



04 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Following this evening's announcement by the Prime Minister, you will be aware that new restrictions have been put in place from midnight tonight. Remote learning, which had been scheduled to take place for all year groups from tomorrow, will continue as planned - but now for a longer period of time; however, there may need to be some modifications regarding the amount of live-streaming depending on the circumstances of individual staff members.

For parents of Year 11 and Year 13 students, you will have heard the Prime Minister state, "We recognise that this will mean it's not possible or fair for **all** exams to go ahead this summer **as normal**. The Education Secretary will work with Ofqual to put in place alternative arrangements." There is much here that will need clarifying and we do not yet know when we will receive guidance on the 'alternative arrangements.' Therefore, it is really important that students in these year groups continue to engage fully with the lessons and work set by their teachers, so that whatever system is implemented, we can ensure they are best placed to receive the grades they deserve.

We are also waiting to receive confirmation regarding the BTEC and Cambridge National exams, which are due to take place this week and next; however, it is our understanding at this point that they will continue to run on the same dates. We will update the parents of those candidates involved as soon as possible.

Students due to attend the Hub should continue to follow the arrangements, which have been sent to parents this evening. Children in receipt of Free School Meals will have vouchers made available and we will be in touch directly about these.

We will provide more information as this becomes available, but in the meantime please pass my best wishes onto your children.

Yours sincerely

James Shapland
Headteacher