

January 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. I am writing regarding the second set of Year 9 reports; scheduled for publishing on January 29th.

In the current circumstances, we have decided not to go ahead with these at this time. It would seem unfair to issue students with new grades at a time when they have recently had to adapt to a new schedule of 'Remote Learning'. Assessment activities were due to be undertaken in school during January would obviously have been very important in helping teachers to provide you with an up to date 'effort' and 'attainment band' grade. This would have given you and your child an opportunity to see how they had progressed since the report you received on 19th November.

We are very pleased with how the majority of our students have adapted to the new remote learning routine. As a result, teachers will now be including regular assessments as part of the normal work being set. One of the aims of these assessments, alongside all the other benefits, will be to help teachers to understand what they need to focus on when we return to school and to help facilitate their final report of the year, scheduled for 9th July.

I would encourage you to keep talking to your child about their remote learning as this can be very helpful in enabling them to stay motivated and focussed. I know that the current interruption to your child's final year of studying their KS3 course is very frustrating and like all schools, we are mindful of the time that these students missed last year.

You will be aware of the many discussions taking place with examination groups, however schools are also acutely aware that the learning time lost for all students is having an impact on their attainment. Please be assured that we have a comprehensive plan to ensure we support all children upon their return. By ensuring your child engages with a work set and completes all assessments to the best of their ability, it will enable their class teacher to gain the vital information they need to not only establish your child's progress, but also enable them to address any misconceptions or gaps in learning. All of this will prove instrumental in enabling every child to be fully prepared at progressing on for their chosen GCSE or Vocational Course.

If you have any general concerns about your child's progress or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

In the meantime, all we can ask is that the students keep doing their best in completing their work.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Warr
Vice Principal