



24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Year 11 Students, Parents and Carers,

First of all, I hope you are all healthy and safe and that your families are all well at this difficult time.

I am sorry that your time attending lessons at Carshalton High School for Girls has ended prematurely. Although the school is closed, we will still be doing what we can to support you in your current and future studies. Please continue to complete the work set on Show My Homework and stay in contact with your teachers and form tutor over the next couple of months as you still remain a valued members of our school community. I wanted to take the opportunity on behalf of myself, the school and the staff to thank you for all your hard work and commitment as a year group, for everything you have given to the school so far and for making all of us very proud.

These are difficult times and I know that many of you will be concerned about the cancellation of this summer's exams. Please remember that our staff are totally committed to you all and be assured that we will work hard to make sure you are not disadvantaged in anyway. To clarify, the GCSE examinations have now been cancelled for the summer and the Department for Education (DfE) have said that grades will be awarded based on a combination of prior achievement and predicted grades (from teachers). The details of exactly how these predicted grades will be calculated are not yet clear and we await further information from the Government.

The documentation also makes clear that any grades provided by schools will not be final and will be moderated by Ofqual. Therefore, please do not email any staff at school asking questions about predicted grades. As soon as we have this information, we will share it with you. All teaching staff have quite a lot of work to do in preparation for this – it really won't be a case of just recording a grade. If you do e-mail staff you will be given a generic response and they will not be able to discuss your grade.

There will be an option to sit an exam early in the next academic year (dates to be determined) for students who are not content with the grades generated in the summer. For this reason, we recommend that you continue to revise and complete any work set by your teachers for your GCSE subjects. This work is being set on Show My Homework.

We are still waiting for examination boards to provide advice on coursework to schools and colleges. In the short term, this means that all students who are currently working on coursework must continue to do so and meet all deadlines set by their Subject Teachers and Curriculum Leaders. If this advice changes we will let you know immediately. The link here will take you to the DfE document entitled '*Coronavirus (COVID-19): cancellation of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2020*'. I have highlighted some key information in the document attached.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

I hope that this helps to clarify matters, but please do not hesitate to ask me should you have any further questions. However, as stated above, please do not send in any queries about predicted grades at this stage.



So finally please stay safe and we will be in contact once we have further information.

Kind regards

Mr M M J Devenney  
Headteacher