



15th January 2021

Dear Year 11

I hope that you and your families are keeping well and that you have managed to find a nice balance between online learning, revision and taking time out for yourself. Feedback from teachers is that Year 11 have responded well to remote learning and we are delighted with your engagement, attendance and fantastic effort. Well done!

Further to my previous letter to you, I wanted to clarify a few things that may be causing you some stress currently. Firstly, the mock examinations that were scheduled for February will not go ahead. There may still be some form of mock at a later date and so continue to revise and keep learning so that you are prepared if and when the time comes.

We are still awaiting further guidance from the Department for Education about how your grades will be awarded since it was announced that the summer GCSE examinations have been cancelled. What we do know is that it will be based on some kind of teacher assessment and once we know more about what this will involve I will let you know. This is actually really encouraging, it's your chance to shine and continue to demonstrate to your teacher what you can do. To ensure you are ready for whatever form these teacher assessments take ensure you do the following:

1. Attend all lessons, online and when back in school.
2. Complete all classwork and homework that is set.
3. Send work in for marking if a teacher has requested you to do so – this might be used as evidence of your ability in the subject.
4. Ensure you are completing all coursework if not done so already.
5. Continue to work to deadlines that are set.
6. Respond to feedback given by your teachers and make the necessary improvements. Teachers will not be sharing grades with students going forward but will provide feedback on your progress and actions for improvement. This is actually much more valuable.
7. Ensure you are keeping a good sleeping routine, your brains need about nine hours of sleep to fully function at the level demanded of you at GCSE.

If you have IT issues or there is anything preventing you from attending lessons, please contact myself or a member of the Year 11 team straight away – we are here to help! My key message to you is to continue to put in the effort you've shown since moving into Year 11, keep on top of your work and ensure you are completing everything. Our goal is a successful outcome at the end of our GCSEs and this is wholly achievable by every single one of you. What you put in is what you will get out.

Kind regards
Mrs Durrett