

19 November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

As you are aware, it has been necessary to isolate the Year 11 bubble until Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. This has been an extremely difficult decision as Year 11 have already had a period of isolation this term. There have now been two positive cases within a few days in the Year group and this, together with updated guidance from Public Health England, gave me no option.

From tomorrow, unless staff are absent, live lessons will be delivered. When this is not possible, work will be put on ClassCharts. Staff have plans to ensure that the curriculum will be delivered in full during this academic year. We actually started to deliver the GCSE curriculum in Year 9 so were working ahead of normal timescales already.

It is really important that students still follow their normal routine for a school day, live lessons will be delivered in accordance with their school timetable. Please ensure that they go to bed at a sensible time and are up and ready for lessons in the morning as usual.

We are awaiting guidance from the Government regarding the GCSE examinations in the summer. Until we are notified otherwise, we are working on the basis that students will still be taking examinations next summer. However staff are using regular assessments to monitor progress and collect evidence in case this changes to a Centre Assessed Grade (as was used this summer). It is crucial that regardless of the final decision on this, students are working hard throughout.

Usually, trial examinations take place in November, this year they have been delayed until January due to the circumstances. We had already planned to start virtual study support for Year 11, you will be receiving more information about this next week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Headteacher