

30 March 2020

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers

Re: Year 11 Examinations and transition to Sixth Form

Following the letter I sent all Year 11 parents on 23rd March explaining that all assessments and exams for the current year 11s have now been cancelled as part of the coordinated effort to stop the transmission of Covid-19 through schools. The DFE have made it clear that grades for this year's GCSEs will be calculated by the exam boards based on a number of factors including the students prior attainment and asking class teachers to submit the grade that they believe the student would have received had the exams gone ahead as normal.

I shared this link in my previous correspondence, which will provide you with further information concerning the summer examination series. We are assured that further guidance will be made by before the Easter break and I will ensure this is forwarded to you at this time.

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

As the summer examinations will no longer take place it is vital that Year 11 students adapt their current study focus to enable a successful transition to key Stage 5 courses, wherever those courses will be delivered.

As such DPA Sixth Form teachers are putting together resources for students who are hoping to study A-Levels or Level 3 BTEC courses in September. Students must sign up for 4 of these courses (3 top choices and 1 reserve), and complete the all tasks that are included. This will help all students to decide if they're truly interested in the course and if they have the potential to be successful in this subject. The work will also help the students to prepare for the course, by equipping them with the required baseline skills and knowledge they need, as well as the independent learning skills needed for Sixth Form more generally.

The work they submit will be checked for quality and quantity, and teachers will be assessing it to check whether or not students are suitable for the course. This will form part of the updated entry criteria to decide who should be offered a place at DPA Sixth Form, as well as references if a student chooses to apply elsewhere. This work is all available through the Year 11 group on Teams.

Once again it is essential that Year 11 students now begin to prepare, for what will be a challenging transition, to courses in Year 12. Subject staff will continue to provide resources for all of our students to continue learning and will ensure that the Sixth Form specific resources will start to be made available from Wednesday 1st April. If students have specific queries relating to these resources we ask that they make contact with staff using the methods previously published.

I hope that you and your family remain safe during this challenging time

Kind regards



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Principal



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