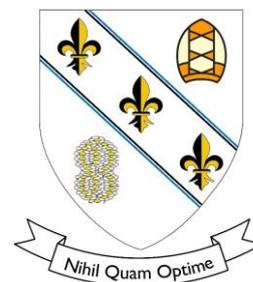


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7th January 2021

Dear Year 11 Pupils

We promised to keep you informed regarding the status of the GCSE (or BTEC/Cambridge First) qualifications that you are studying for. Following the announcement yesterday from the Secretary of State for Education, I write to share what this means for you.

In his statement, Gavin Williamson (Secretary of State for Education) announced that there will not be any GCSE examinations this summer. Instead, schools will provide what are known as centre assessed grades (CAG). The news from the Department for Education is that unlike last year, there will be no algorithm or formula used to award grades alongside CAG and that schools will be able to allocate your grades based on a range of evidence. We are expecting more guidance on this and, indeed, training for schools and colleges. I will write to you again as we receive more information.

All Year 11 pupils should continue to complete the work being set by their teachers. The work you complete will be used as part of the process to allocate a grade to you for each subject. Therefore, completing the work set remains vital to you. Remaining in a routine of work will support your transition to further education or training – please do not lose the habit of learning. If we are able to welcome you back in to the College, we will also hold the mock exams which we have had to cancel. Sitting examinations will enable you to demonstrate what you have learned and understand. Examinations are also good preparation for further study wherever you go next for your education or training. However, at this stage, we are not in a position to confirm any arrangements until the Department for Education announces its plans for Year 11 pupils nationally.

In closing, I would like to reiterate the importance of continuing to work hard and following the work set by your teachers. Keep a routine, keep in touch with your teachers and keep looking forwards. All your teachers and the staff at the College are committed to enabling you to successfully progress to the next stage of your education or training so that you may realise the ambitions you all have. Although this lockdown is a setback, you each have the ability and capacity to enjoy an exciting future in whatever you decide to do. We are very proud of you all.

Yours faithfully

Mr N Payne
Deputy Executive Headteacher

cc Year 11 Parents/Carers