



ST/KJP

8th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you and your families are well.

As you may have seen in the news last week the government has announced additional measures designed to support students taking examinations in 2021 to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on students' education. The Secretary of State for Education has written to all students regarding these changes and a copy of the letter is attached.

The new measures include:

- More generous grading than usual, in line with national outcomes from 2020.
- Students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE, AS and A levels to focus revision.
- Exam aids - like formula sheets - provided in some exams giving students more confidence and reducing the amount of information they need to memorise.
- Additional exams to give students a second chance to sit a paper if the main exams or assessments are missed due to illness or self-isolation.
- If students miss one or more exams due to self-isolation or sickness but have still completed a proportion of their qualification, they will still receive a grade.
- If a student misses all of their assessments in a subject, they will have the opportunity to sit a single contingency paper per subject held shortly after the main exams. This will take place between 28th June to 16th July 2021 and timetabled to allow at least a 10-day gap after each subject's final paper in the main series.

The Government will set out further detail on this process, and on adaptations to exams, in the new year. As we receive this information in school we will pass it on to you.

The academy has always provided students in Year 11 with an additional Period 6 to support them in preparation for their exams in their final year of school. After the year we have had, and the impact of Covid-19 which meant that students missed so much education, it is important that they have this additional time to catch-up on essential studies in preparation for their exams. Therefore, the timings for our school day for Year 11 will continue to be a 9am start Monday to Friday with a 4.10pm finish Monday to Thursday and 2.40pm on a Friday.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr Stuart Turnbull
Principal

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