

11th January 2021

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A University of Kent Academies Trust School

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Year 11 Update

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

Unfortunately, we find ourselves in a period of remote learning and uncertainty surrounding the awarding of GCSE/BTEC grades. Following the announcement last week of another national lockdown, I wanted to keep you updated with how we are supporting you and your child at this difficult time.

You will have heard the news that exams this year will not go ahead in their current format and teacher assessment will be used. This announcement will have created huge uncertainty for students, and I am afraid that at the current time we have no further information on this. We are expecting more detail concerning this over the next few weeks and we will ensure that we communicate this with you as soon as we are able to. It is crucial that at this time students keep focused and continue working hard in all online lessons and assessments. We were planning to hold a parent/carer evening this week but due to the changing situation we will be postponing this until we know more about the process for awarding grades.

All students will be provided with online lessons and with work set and tasks to complete. It is so important that students fully engage in these lessons and in the work set as we need to ensure that your child's learning continues during the current time at home. It is important to highlight that this work will feedback into ongoing teacher assessment of your child's progress. Also, their online learning engagement is important as later on this year we intend to schedule further teacher assessments so that students can potentially improve on their current teacher assessment grades. We will be monitoring student engagement and will be in contact where we have any concerns. Please contact the academy if your child is having any difficulty accessing their online lessons and learning resources.

At this time, the Mock exams that were planned for the start of Term 4 will not go ahead as planned. If they are rescheduled, we will let your child know as soon as we have made this 11th January 2021 decision. This decision will be based on when the lockdown is eased, and students return to school. It will also depend upon the guidance schools are given relating to awarding this summer's grades on 'teacher assessments'.

Pastoral support continues for your child whilst they are working from home. This support takes many forms including via their personal tutor, our pastoral manager Miss Cole and myself. If you or your child have concerns or worries, please encourage them to contact us. Carers advice will also continue whilst working from home with Mrs Murphy and the careers team. Mrs Murphy can be contacted via email on:

sharonmurphy@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk.

We will continue to communicate regularly with you but please contact us if we are able to support with any questions or concerns in the meantime. When we hear more information or updates regarding exams, we will let you know.

If your child is having any IT difficulties, they should email the iBar team via email on: ibar@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk.

As always if you have any questions or if I can support further, please contact me via my email: dangreenwood@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk.

I look forward to welcoming our Year 11 students back to the academy when the time comes.

Yours faithfully,



Dan Greenwood
Assistant Principal



**Artsmark
Platinum Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



TeachFirst

