



29 January 2021

Dear Year 11 Parent/Carer

We have been very pleased with the attendance of our Year 11 students this week during our morning tutor time registration. It has provided an opportunity for the students to engage with their tutors as well as have the opportunities to interact with their peers. This has clearly demonstrated that whilst the delivery of the curriculum through videos and voice over resources should be the foundation of our remote learning strategy, teacher interaction is also essential. Last week we introduced the live lounge sessions to provide students the opportunity to interact with members of staff and talk about their work and any issues that they are experiencing.

From next week we have decided to make these sessions a compulsory part of the curriculum delivery.

These sessions will allow members of staff to talk through the work that they have set, discuss feedback with the students and if appropriate deliver some of the curriculum content. We feel this balance of curriculum material being delivered through voice over power points and videos with the addition of teacher interaction provides the best balance for our students.

We understand that the uncertainty regarding the award of grades in this year may be worrying some of our Year 11 students. From the current information that we have it is essential that our students have access to their full curriculum entitlement. The delivery of content, revision and assessment will continue over the next few months and centre assessed grades will not be produced until later in the academic year. We will be checking the outcomes of the current consultation on the awarding of grades carefully, but I wanted to assure you that that we will do our best to make sure that our Year 11 students achieve the grades they deserve.

It is important for the students to engage with the learning activities that their teachers have set. However, please rest assured that the award of the final grade will be based on a variety of information and I would not want students to worry about individual pieces of work. All members of staff at the school are here to help and support our students, if students have any issues or concerns please encourage them to get in touch with their teacher, tutor or Head of Learning.

Finally, may I thank you for your continued support. The current situation provides challenges for everybody and we are all having to adapt. We do understand the difficulties that parents and carers are facing at the moment, having to juggle work and supporting students as they complete learning activities at home.

I will update you as more information becomes available regarding the awards of the grades this year.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Weston

Associate Headteacher