

Our Ref:GBA/RHM/Year 11 info March 2020

24 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your family are keeping well, under these very unusual circumstances. I am writing to update you on two areas that I know you and your children will be concerned about.

GCSE Assessment

Following the government announcement on Thursday 19 March stating that all GCSE and A level exams have been cancelled, but that students would all still receive their qualifications, I would just like to clarify, as far as possible, actions we will be taking as a school.

The latest update from the Department for Education can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced>

As indicated in this guidance Ofqual have yet to confirm exactly what they will require. However we hope you will be reassured by their commitment to ensure grades are calculated as fairly as possible with no student disadvantaged as a result of these exceptional circumstances, and that in terms of a permanent record, the grades will be indistinguishable from those provided in other years. Once the school receives further detail we will be working with all Year 11 teachers to provide exam boards with the evidence they request. Once this is passed onto the exam boards, we will then need to wait to hear which grades they have chosen to award each student. We will, of course, keep you updated with any further information we receive.

Prom

I know the Year 11s would like clarity on whether the Prom will go ahead as planned. We have contacted the hotel where we are holding the prom. This is their response to our enquiry. "At this present time, we intend to hold any events that have been booked for after May 2020. However, we are reviewing the situation on a week-to-week basis."

As I am sure you can understand things can change very rapidly and it may be the date and venue of the prom may have to change, but we cannot confirm this at present. Our advice is to not book any transport or other activities for the prom at this present time. We will confirm any further details as soon as we are able to.

We know the Year 11 students will be anxious about what will happen with their exams, and we are also conscious that they have not had the usual chance to say goodbye and mark the end of their time with us. As a school we are committed to being able to say good bye to our Year 11 students in the best way possible under the circumstances and we will be in touch with you as soon as we can provide any further details on this.

Yours faithfully



Mrs G Badesha
Deputy Headteacher