



15 January 2021

Dear Year 11,

I know you will be aware that we are moving back into a national lockdown because of the rising number of Covid-19 cases and hospital admissions. This means that all schools have been asked to switch to remote learning until at least the February half term.

I know this is all incredibly unsettling for you and may leave you feeling very uncertain. I would like to assure you of a few things. The knowledge you are learning in all of your subjects remains very important and useful to you. You will use this knowledge in life (because knowledge is good), in your studies at post-16 (because these courses often start where GCSEs finished), but more immediately you will still be using and applying this knowledge for the remainder of Year 11 to demonstrate your ability in each subject.

The Prime Minister also said that summer exams will not go ahead as had originally been planned; however, there is no detail at this time as to what will replace them and what this will look like.

You are due to start your mock examinations this month. However, as you are not in school, that of course cannot happen. However, we feel that you have been preparing for these mocks for some time and we do want to know what information you have retained over the past months. With this in mind we are going to ask your teachers, where appropriate, to carry out these assessments. Each teacher will decide on the best method for their subject, and will tell you what this will be beforehand.

- Assessments will start the week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> January for two weeks
- Assessments will take place during your live lessons
- Please check your Teams calendar for further information and check with your subject teachers during lessons for further instructions

Full mocks will take place when we are back in school. However, we do not know exactly when we will return to school, and we do not yet know what will be needed in place of exams to generate your grades accurately.

Please do not feel that all of your hard work and preparation for your January mocks has been a waste of time; it is quite the opposite. The government are currently coming up with a system to generate students' grades. Whatever they decide upon and whatever testing takes place instead of summer examinations, knowing your subjects well puts you in a strong position.



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For these reasons, and for your wellbeing in general, it is important that you continue to engage with remote learning.

All the staff here at school are thinking of you at this very difficult time. If you are experiencing any feelings that you are struggling to manage, please do contact your Form Tutor or Head of Year so that you can receive the support you need.

Look after yourselves and stay safe.

Miss Hryniewicz  
**Assistant Head of School KS5**



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