

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday evening, we wanted to offer our support during this difficult time and to clarify some key points which directly affect Year 11.

As you are aware, Year 11 Academic Learning Reviews were due to commence the week beginning 11th January 2021. The purpose of these meetings is to update you on your child's progress and, of course, to answer any questions you may have. Given the changes announced, we feel that these meetings will be more effective and purposeful if they are pushed back, until the Government has released more details regarding how GCSE grades will be awarded now that most of the examinations have been cancelled. We will notify you of the revised dates in due course, and will aim to accommodate your chosen day/time slots.

With regards to vocational courses, the DfE has confirmed that these public examinations will go ahead in January, and we will contact the pupils involved separately.

Furthermore, following on from the Year 11 mock examinations last term, mock grades will be issued to pupils and families slightly later than planned. The reason for this is in order to ensure that rigorous checks and moderation have taken place internally within departments. At the moment, schools have not been notified of how grades will be awarded and the role that any 'in-school' assessments will play in these final grades. To this end, we need to ensure that mock results are communicated to families within the correct context, as the mock examination papers sat last term were often only reflective of one component of a course.

With the uncertainty regarding the awarding of grades, the one key message has got to be that pupils must continue to work with the highest of efforts, even during these unprecedented times. It is paramount that pupils engage with their on-line learning, whether it is via a 'live lesson', through work set on Show My Homework or submitting their work as requested. In addition, Go4Schools will be used by staff to log how well pupils are engaging with their learning from home, which of course will be accessible to families as well.

If you or your child have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Year 11 team or the school via support@sweynepark.com if there are any concerns regarding logging into lessons, Go4Schools or Show My Homework.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. The landscape is changing so quickly, that we must continue to work together to ensure that our pupils have the best possible outcomes, despite these challenging times.

Kind regards



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