

19 April 2020

Dear Students,

I appreciate that everyone's circumstances are different, but I hope you were able to enjoy the Easter holiday.

This email is to update you on what we are planning to do from the start of next week (w/c 20 April 2020). As you will know by now, the Government is going to extend the lockdown for another 3 weeks. This means, as far as we are aware, the College will remain closed.

The teachers are going to resume lessons and homework on Monday 20 April and will continue to record participation and engagement in lessons. Teachers will set self-study and support you online.

You will recognise that, without our Progression Exams and assessments, you have missed out on some progress markers. These are normally important for you in terms of planning for the future and this means that we are going to have to give you an assessed grade, at the end of the year, without the Progression Exam. In order to do this we will be recording and assessing your work as normal (but it will have an increased significance), as we look to give you the best advice about what programme of study would be most suitable for you in September. All the work you have been doing over the year will contribute to your predicted grades for September.

It is important therefore to continue to work as you were before lockdown. If there is a reason why you are unable to complete the work, because you are ill or a member of your family is ill, then we will understand this, but you need to let your tutors know. We want to do the best we can for you during this challenging time and communication is key. Remember that your teachers and tutors will be checking their messages and emails on a regular basis in case there is anything that you think they need to know. Again, it is important to keep them informed.

I feel really proud of the way that you, as a student at our College, have managed to stay motivated and continue with your studies, even under difficult circumstances. There is no doubt that these have been trying times and that they may continue. However, I have been impressed with the way that our staff and students have adapted and I know that, if we communicate with each other, we will continue to refine the ways we work and ensure that your education is not impacted in the long term. We are keen to hear about your experience

of remote learning, and will be sending out a questionnaire next week to collect your feedback.

Best wishes,

Catherine Cole

Principal

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