

21 April 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I wanted to provide you with an update from the College now that the extension to the lockdown has been formally announced by the Government.

These are challenging times for all of us, not least students who are feeling uncertain about their future studies, and I wanted to reassure you that we at the College are making every effort to provide a stable, familiar study environment. In addition, we are continuing to provide pastoral support including mental health advice and counselling services. We have also added helpful suggestions for structuring time when studying at home and taking care of wellbeing to the Study Directory.

Whilst I appreciate the challenge for year 13 students to stay motivated and continue with their studies, it remains really important that they continue to work hard to complete their courses.

We know now that grades for all courses expected to be completed in summer 2020 will be awarded 'calculated grades'. We also know that it may be possible for some students to sit an exam later in the autumn, so ongoing studies will be critical for those students. Once we have more information about this, we will of course be in touch again.

For those students looking to extend their subject knowledge, there are a number of online courses available.

I will be sending a further communication about grading for students studying vocational courses later this week.

It is also important that students keep communicating with us. We appreciate that some students are finding studying remotely more challenging than others and some are also dealing with very difficult personal circumstances. Personal Tutors are available by email, as are the teaching staff, so we are asking students to please let us know if they have any questions or need to discuss work or other issues.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to send you and all of your loved ones best wishes from everyone at the College.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Cole
Principal

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