



Ref: Letters031 /bd

8th January, 2021

Dear Year 11 Families,

I hope you are well. You will be aware of The Prime Minister's announcements this week which stated that GCSE exams will not take place this summer in the normal way. At this stage, we know very little about how students will be assessed. As soon as I know more, I will let you know. I will also keep you posted about the proposed dates for return to school. Early indications seem to be pointing towards a return after half-term (week commencing 22nd February). I very much hope this is the case.

If there one message you take from this letter, it is **that continuing to study is now more important than ever**. You must attend online lessons and complete the work set. If you do not, you will likely be at a disadvantage. If the system is anything like last year, students will receive grades based on assessments made by your teachers. This is likely to involve your teachers making a judgement based on a range of factors e.g. class and homework, coursework, mock exams and other relevant data. **Students should expect further mock exams and assessments. They will need to demonstrate they have continued to make progress from this point.**

To support students we will continue with our Assemblies. Year 11 students should log in at 8.45am on Monday. We will also be adding Tutor sessions to our online schedule.

I understand that this will be a very worrying time for you. Having said this, I want to offer you some reassurance and outline things that are within your control. Firstly, as I've said, it is likely that we will need to consider assessments and classwork, so it is important that you complete all the work that is set by your teachers. Secondly, the completion of the courses you are on will help to prepare you for your next steps in life whether that is Sixth Form, Apprenticeship, College, University, or the world of work. Lastly, it is important to remember that the value of your qualifications will not be changed by the Prime Minister's announcement. They will still reflect the effort, hard work and attainment you have shown throughout the course.

I know that this week's announcement will be a disappointment but at this point, the best thing we can all do is to take on board the points above and keep going. Make sure that you are logging into your lessons and completing any work set. It is now more important than ever.

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Harrop Fold School

MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

I have absolutely no doubt that in the future, when all this is behind us, our children will be fine. We had an inkling that this may end up being the case, so your teachers have prepared for this. We will support you every step of the way. If at any point, you need a hand, please make contact with either Miss Jones (Year 11) who will ensure that you receive support.

Can I ask that all Year 11 parents share this letter with their son / daughter? They need to read for themselves what is expected of them.

Just a reminder to those in receipt of free school meals, from next week you will receive a food parcel, delivered by Salford community volunteers. This is what the government have advised. I understand they may launch a national voucher scheme but we await further details. This time will pass. Please get in touch if I can help in any way claire.coy@salford.gov.uk

I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Yours faithfully

Claire Coy
Principal

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