

20 March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 11 students

I feel so very sad writing to you in the current situation. I did not expect that I would ever have to write a letter such as this.

Today we said goodbye to Year 11. Staff have been moved to tears with the presents, cards and flowers we have received. In the current climate of uncertainty, when we all know of people whose employment situation is precarious at best and who are having to prioritise the basics, these kind gestures are hugely appreciated by us all.

I believe it is essential that the long-established rites of passage we associate with leaving school do take place, even if not at the traditional time. We have assured Year 11 that we will have a prom at some stage, perhaps in September or October. We will also have a Year 11 awards evening.

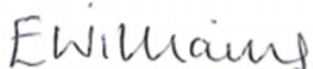
Staff are prioritising the marking of Year 11 final mock examinations so that we have an accurate assessment of where your child was at in March — albeit two months before their actual GCSEs. As soon as Ofqual and the examination boards decide on the process of awarding grades, I will write to parents again.

We have developed learning and revision packs for students. I urged Year 11 in assembly yesterday to continue their studies; we are not sure whether students will be required to sit exams at another point. However, the process of learning is important in itself and students should not stop. It will stand them in good stead for post-16 studies.

If your child qualifies for free school meals, we will be sending out Tesco vouchers on Monday or Tuesday.

Keep safe and well.

Yours faithfully



Ms E Williams
Deputy Headteacher