

ASPIRE + BELIEVE + ACHIEVE

7<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and yours well and are looking forward to the Christmas period, however different that may look this year. I'd like to take this opportunity to update you following the DfE's announcements on Thursday and the implications they will have for your son/daughter. In summary, for the students, this means:

- A full set of GCSE examinations will be taking place next summer, with the main examination period being from 7 June until 2 July.
- The generosity in grading applied to the 2020 series will be applied to 2021 to ensure that you are treated fairly in relation to those who received results in 2020
- Advance notice will be given of some topic areas to help you focus your revision. We expect to receive this in January and your teachers will pass it on to you as soon as it has been made available.
- Some supporting materials, such as formula sheets, will be given to you for reference during the examination. Again, further details about these will be made available in January.
- If you have to miss some or all of the papers because of illness or self-isolation, but have completed sufficient non-examined assessment, you will be able to be awarded a grade through the special consideration process. Medical evidence will be needed to support this.
- There will be a contingency examination series for those students who miss papers in a subject because of self-isolation and illness. This will take place between 28 June and 16 July, so please do not plan any holidays for this period.

Our second series of Mock examinations will take place in the fortnight beginning Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Students will have a revision booklet directly focused on these examinations with subject specific guidance on what and how to revise. I am delighted to inform you that we are subscribing to an award winning online resource, GCSEPod, which will support revision in both the mocks and the summer exam series. More details will follow soon.

Over the next fortnight, all Year 11 students are meeting with a member of the senior team and have been given their appointment date and time. This session will give them the opportunity to discuss what is going well and how we can work together to support with learning and exams in the future. Written reports will also be shared before the end of term which will provide further direction for the students.

Thank you for your continued support for your son/daughter.

With kind regards,

Mrs Fiona Wright – Headteacher