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Dear parent/carers

In light of yesterday's announcement, we wish to update you as best we can at this stage. We have also written to your child(ren) to provide an update, and we will continue to stay in touch with you on a weekly basis to provide you with any more information or updates.

The school will be open only to vulnerable/ key worker children until February half term. These students will be supervised to access the same online lessons that their peers are receiving at home. All other students will learn remotely.

We know that our Y10, 11 and 13 students will be particularly affected by this lockdown and the partial school closure. You will, of course, be aware that the summer examinations will now not proceed as we had expected. We are not yet entirely sure how final examination results will be calculated, but it seems fair to assume that the system will be similar to that of last year. This means that we may be submitting centre assessed grades (CAGs) to the examination boards, which are the grades teachers believe students would achieve if they completed the final examinations. CAGs are calculated based upon engagement with and outcomes in class and homework, attitude to learning, coursework, PPEs and other assessments. It is therefore vital that you impress upon your child(ren) the importance of continuing to work hard and engage thoroughly in learning, completing all classwork, homework and assessments to the very best of their ability. We will, of course, update you as soon as we have more specific information from the government.

Please reassure your child(ren) that their hard work and efforts will still be recognised. Their results will still have the same value as those achieved by students in other years who did sit their final examinations. CAGs will be fair and will reflect your child(ren)'s potential and progress. They will be based upon objective evidence and they will be internally and, very probably, externally moderated.

Teachers want the very best for your child(ren). They know their aptitude and they will continue to support them in every way possible to progress towards and beyond their target grades in external examinations. Please encourage them to stay positive and work hard.

Thank you for your support. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us through the usual channels should you need our support.

Best wishes

The Leadership Team

