



5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Year 11 & Year 13 Students

## Following the Prime Minister's Announcement

I hope that you and your families are well and have enjoyed the Christmas break. I am sure that you have been keeping up with the news and you will have heard, initially, that your return to school was postponed to 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and then, last night, the Prime Minister confirmed that England would return to a national lockdown and that all schools would close until at least February half term for all students (except for those who are vulnerable and those who have a key worker parent).

With regards to public exams, the Prime Minister said, *"it is not possible or fair for all exams to go ahead this summer as normal. The Education Secretary will work with Ofqual to put in place alternative arrangements"*. Whilst I recognise that this message may cause anxiety and relief simultaneously, it is important to note that the Prime Minister has **not** stated that all public exams will be cancelled. We await further information. In the meantime, you must remain focussed on your studies in anticipation of how your work might be assessed and in order to prepare most effectively for your next steps, irrespective of examinations.

For Year 11 students, clearly you will not now be taking Mock Exams at school, as outlined in the revised timetable published last week. Some Year 11 students are due to take the CAMNAT i-Media public exam next Monday and some Year 13 students are due to take BTEC Sport exams next week, as well – we shall confirm whether or not these exams will still take place as soon as we have certainty.

The situation is changing day-by-day and we will keep you updated, as best we can. Please know that you are not alone – we will continue to do all that we can to support you and ensure that you achieve what you deserve and are able to progress as you would have wanted.

In the meantime, stay at home, try not to worry and keep your focus on your studies.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Dey  
Principal