

19th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and efforts during the Y11 self-isolation period. These are difficult times for us all and I fully realise that home learning is far from ideal for all parties, however, your support during this period has been crucial. Thank you for the coaxing, reminding, texting and calling that you have done over the last two weeks; we would not have achieved the high levels of engagement without your continued support.

I will congratulate the students collectively on their return to the academy on Friday. The vast majority have worked tirelessly during this period and fully deserve high praise. As you know, it takes a lot of commitment, self-discipline and hard work to apply yourself remotely on a daily basis and we have seen this in abundance over the last two weeks.

It is important that all students return to the academy on Friday with a positive mindset and ready to learn. Despite the success of home learning, we all need to continue to work hard, particularly over the next four weeks to ensure all students are not disadvantaged by their time out of the academy.

We have reviewed our mock exam procedures and I can confirm that the mock exams will now begin on Wednesday 6th January 2021 and will run for a two-week period. I realise some students will be disappointed that the exams will not be taking place on their return, however, we feel it is in the best interests of everyone to engage students back into their learning and ensure they are making progress across their curriculum. A detailed mock examination timetable will follow in the coming weeks. Staff will ensure that all students are fully prepared with the relevant resources for each of their subjects over the Christmas period.

Year 11 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 10th December as planned. You will receive further information about this over the next week and how this will run remotely. This will give staff the opportunity to feedback on your son's/daughter's current performance and attitude to learning in their subject and give you the chance to ask any subject specific questions.

Thank you once again for your continued support through such testing times.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Fitzgibbon
Principal