



30 March 2020

Dear Parents of Year 10 and Year 12,

As you can imagine the current climate has many people imparting wise words to their students, One of my favourites over the last couple of days has been attributed to Vladimir Lenin who said: "There are decades where nothing happens, and there are weeks where decades happen." The last couple of weeks have felt like a decade for sure ... it was only a little over ten days ago that the Prime Minister announced GCSE and A level exams would be cancelled for Yr11 and Yr13 and that schools would be shut for all but the most vulnerable and key workers. The message is now clear, stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives. At the end of an unprecedented couple of weeks, I would like to say thank you to all of our staff, students and parents/carers for responding to the challenge.

However, the current situation places Year 10 and Year 12 at the greatest risk of underachievement. In both cases, current events are obviously diminishing teacher-contact at the most critical time. On the positive side, students who work hard in a structured and consistent way will reap the rewards next year. Grade boundaries are affected by the overall cohort performance nationally. Hard working students may well reap the benefits of lower grade thresholds in the summer of 2021. Being highly speculative, it is now conceivable that students could be out of school for almost six months, with only twenty-six weeks to complete the full course by Easter 2021. My plea to parents/carers is, therefore, to ensure that students work hard on the assignments set by their teachers to avoid any risk of underachievement. Regardless of timescales, for both year groups, it is likely that the first term of your next Academic year will end in an examination of some sort to ascertain whether students are still on track. Therefore, if you haven't been able to access Google Classroom or Show My Homework then please contact The Academy as soon as possible.

Every household is currently facing different challenges at this time, therefore, we would like to offer any support we can to ensure you and your child feel supported. If they are having any problems with accessing or completing work we can help resolve this.

Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Kind Regards

Mr M Avoth
Principal

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