

21 April 2020

Dear Year 11 and parents

I hope you are all well and managing to adjust to life during the lock down. This letter gives you an update, in as much detail as we currently have, regarding key things affecting Year 11.

### GCSEs

As you all know, there are no exams this year. Instead, teachers have been asked to use the evidence they have in school to make a prediction about the grade you would have been most likely to achieve in the final exams. This also applies to vocational courses such as PE BTEC, RSL and Catering. Teachers are **not allowed** to share these predictions with you because once they are sent away Ofqual will moderate the grades and make any changes they feel are appropriate. **GCSE results day will be on Thursday, 20 August.** Assuming schools are open, you will come in and collect these results or they will be sent to you. We will let you know nearer the time.

### School work

Our advice is that you keep doing some school work regularly to help you maintain your skills. It will also help to give you some routine, which is important at this time. Colleges may want to test students in September and some of you may wish to take exams next term if you do not get the grades you hoped for when results are published in August.

However, your teachers will not set you daily work this term. Instead they have put work in the shared area that will help you keep practising what you have learnt. Teachers will give you feedback if you send work to them and support whenever you need it. But they won't be chasing you for the work. You can choose what you want to do based on what is most helpful.

Don't forget, we are still here. Your mentors will check in with you every week to check how you are. Your teachers are also available on email and will respond to any questions and give you feedback on any work you choose to do.

There will be a weekly assembly sent to you every Friday from Mr Cavanagh and every Monday our SLT assemblies are now sent out to all students.

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We will also be uploading subject specific resources to support you with the transition from Year 11 to Year 12 for individual subjects. These will be especially useful if you are continuing to study a subject at college. Look out for a link to these later this week.

### Colleges and Careers support

Most of you have applied to college or secured an apprenticeship. If you haven't, then we can still help you with this. Ms Munoz and the Careers Team are here to help and are ringing all Year 11 students to check you are organised. If you need help just email [e.munoz@pcs.hants.sch.uk](mailto:e.munoz@pcs.hants.sch.uk)

### Prom and Leavers Assembly

We promised you that one way or another you will leave Park in style and you will. However, as we expected, the prom which was provisionally booked for June 2020 will **not be going ahead**. Even if Government restrictions begin to lift by this date, they are not expected to permit large social gatherings. We will hold an event for you try to link this to Leavers' assembly and certificate evening when we are able. Details will follow as soon as we can plan this, but it will not be yet.

### Do you need help?

We are just an email or phone call away. School is manned during school hours each day because we have a small number of students in school. Call or email and we will give you the support you need.

### Looking after yourself and staying in touch

Many brilliant examples of how students have been looking after themselves have been shared with us, but everyone is different. Use the daily exercise hour to get out, get some fresh air and clear your mind. Draw, write, grow stuff or do a jigsaw. Try something you haven't tried before and keep in touch. Thank you to those of you who have been sending in pictures and messages. We love seeing them, keep sharing please.

In the meantime, your mentors will continue to email you each week and Mr Cavanagh will start posting weekly assemblies from this Friday to keep you up to date and allow us to keep sharing positive messages together. Look out for the weekly newsletters too.

We look forward to seeing you again just as soon as we are able to.

Yours faithfully

Ella Capaldi  
Head of School