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Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

I hope you are all staying well and keeping safe.

In this letter there is information concerning remote learning, written exams in vocational qualifications, assessments and COVID testing.

### **Remote learning**

We hope that remote learning and live lessons are a positive experience as opposed to very stressful. We are committed to contacting every household every week to check how it is going. Please flag up any concerns you have particularly if your son/ward is struggling with Teams or there aren't sufficient electronic devices in the house. We must resolve these issues as soon as possible. Once we are confident in these areas we will be hoping that all boys complete as much of their set work as possible.

### **Vocational qualifications**

For those boys studying vocational qualifications it has been decided by the Government that external written exams due to take place in February and March of this year will not be going ahead. Other assessments for vocational subjects, such as BTECs and Cambridge Nationals, will continue as an important part of Teams online learning.

Although A level and GCSE examinations have been cancelled in favour of teacher predictions, boys must appreciate that their grades must be based on the work that they produce. One suggestion that the Government is looking at is that teachers make their predictions towards the end of the summer term to enable more learning to take place. All those in Year 11 and 13 who were expecting an early end to the school year might well have to reconsider if this comes to fruition! As soon as I have further information, I will of course let you know.

### **Other assessments**

Although more information concerning mocks and other assessments for all students in all year groups will follow when we are sure students will return to school, we are clear that some form of testing will take place in the classroom. Now therefore, is not the time for our boys to ease up or worse to stop working.

### **COVID testing**

Testing in the school sports hall will start on Monday for those students and members of staff who are working in school and who consent to a test. Photos of the testing site can be found on the website. Further information will be following for those who are on the key worker and vulnerable list. As we get nearer to term 4 and know our plans for potential reopening, letters will come out on a wider scale.

I appreciate there is lots of ever changing information and guidance coming out and I will keep you informed fully as and when new developments occur.

Wishing you and your family well and please all stay safe.

My warmest regards

**Mrs S Bridger**  
Headteacher

