

January 2021

Dear Pupil,

We hope that you are well and are staying safe.

GCSE examinations

Following the announcement from the Government yesterday that GCSE exams will not go ahead but will be replaced by some form of Teacher Assessment we appreciate that you will have a number of questions and concerns.

The press release following the announcement from the Education Secretary states that:

'With GCSEs and A Levels not going ahead as planned, the exams regulator Ofqual will launch a consultation – alongside the department – on the options for alternatives to the exams to ensure every young person gets a fair grade for their work, with the expectation that teacher assessment will be used.'

As of yet there is no additional information available to schools and there will not be in the immediate future.

Please be assured that you are very much in our thoughts and we look forward to seeing you at some point in the future. In the meantime, please remember:

- You are LDA pupils and we are proud of you.
- You will be treated fairly with regard to your qualifications.
- Stay home, stay safe and look after yourself and your family.
- Keep your mind and body as active as you can to support your well-being.
- Use the school website for links that signpost support if you need it or contact school if you need to speak to us.

We know that the vast majority of you have been working hard and have focused on your studies with a view to sitting final examinations in the summer. We are extremely proud of you and commend you for your efforts to date. Whilst you are not sitting formal GCSE examinations this summer, your courses are continuing.

Your teachers are continuing to deliver lessons and set work in line with the course plans. You need to complete any tasks set to the best of your ability and ensure your teachers have evidence of your best work. It is important that you continue to study and follow your school timetable via Google classroom.

As we said in September and have continued to reinforce, 'we do not know what is going to happen, but we can make sure we give our best every day to ensure we are ready for whatever does happen'.

We will communicate information to you as soon as we have it but please be reassured that we will follow a robust process in line with guidance from Ofqual and you will be treated fairly.

Messages will be posted regularly on the Y11 Google Classroom: code 7tcdmmy

If possible, please keep checking the Y11 Google classroom, the school website and Twitter @DT__LDA for updates and information.

With warmest regards,

Miss L Morrison
Assistant Headteacher, Director of KS4

Mrs Bannon
Head of Year 11

Miss Donaldson
Y11 Pupil Support Manager