

6th January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils in Year 10 & Year 11

Re: January & February exams

Changes for Year 11 pupils

I hope you are all well. I am writing to inform you of some changes to our exam schedule this term. Due to the recent Government announcement that "summer exams will not go ahead as normal" – and until we have further clarification on this – we have decided not to enter any Year 11 pupils for exams this half term. This is because we do not want to disadvantage pupils given the news that exams are not going ahead.

Changes for Year 10 pupils

With Year 10 exams we have decided to go ahead with the following entries:

Construction, which is for 30 pupils;

Travel & Tourism, which is for 10 pupils; and

Sports Studies, which is everyone in Year 10.

We believe the pupils have spent the last term preparing for these exams and that not to enter them now may disadvantage them in future. They will have an opportunity to resit these exams during Year 11 should they need to, however we are confident that having had face-to-face teaching throughout last term, they have had the opportunity to fully prepare in these subjects.

For the other subjects there are reasons why we have decided not to go ahead with the entry, particularly because we are worried that some of them are too late, and pupils will have been off school for over six weeks before the exam takes place.

Year 10 Exam dates

Thursday 7th January – Construction: Arrive at 8am

Friday 8th January – Travel & Tourism: Arrive 8am

Monday 11th January – Sports Studies: Arrive at 8am

Keeping pupils safe during exams

Pupils should come into school via Student Services where they will wash their hands and then be sent to join pre-exam booster sessions. They will be socially distanced during the revision session and also during the exam. Instead of using just one sports hall for the Sports Studies

exam we will also use the gym. This will enable us to double space pupils 2 metres apart. The exam rooms are cleaned between sittings, there is hand sanitizer available and equipment is provided on each desk. Pupils with special exam access arrangements will be in the main building in classrooms supported by learning support assistants.

Considerations

Obviously as parents and carers you reserve the right not to send your child in to sit the exam and they will simply be marked as absent. I hope you will discuss the options with your child and reach a decision together. Please be reassured that I will respect your decision. If you decide not to sit the exam please let us know by sending a message via School Comms.

Kind regards

Mrs A Rooney

Principal