



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL LICHFIELD

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Headteacher: Ms J Rutherford BA (Hons)

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Dear Parents and Carers

After a week of many changes, I felt it important to write directly to parents and carers of our Year 11 students. Over the last few days the Prime Minister and the Education Secretary have announced that GCSE exams will not take place in the summer in the normal way. The government have stated that results will be a, "form of teacher-assessed grades which, with training and support provided, will be awarded fairly and consistently around the country." Ofqual are carrying out a detailed consultation over the next few weeks.

I know that we were expecting exams to go ahead and that some students may feel disappointment that they will be unable to sit exams and anxious about some of the unknowns. Although we are unable to provide clarity and detail on processes at this point, we do know that there is still 6 months left of Year 11 and our understanding is that assessed grades will incorporate this period of learning.

The hard work that the students have put in to their GCSEs to this point will be recognised. Importantly the continued effort of the students in the coming months will be fully reflected in any overall grade. I urge them to maintain their efforts, to try their best and make the most of the support from their teachers. The future is still in the hands of the students and our staff will guide and support the students through the remainder of the year.

I must encourage students to engage in all aspects of the remote learning. They should ensure they are proactive at completing the work, that they ask questions to clarify understanding and that they respond to feedback given. It is important that students have a quiet place to work, and develop consistent routines by following their usual timetable. Although the current situation is challenging, engaging in independent learning will be a life skill which will be put to good use for any post 16 establishment and beyond.

Teaching staff are continuing the process of marking and feeding back the recently taken mock exams. As students are not in school, the usual plan for mock results has been changed. Staff have been asked to give results to students and include areas for improvement. It will be difficult to give physical papers back to the students so feedback will come in different forms for each subject.

Year 11 Subject evenings for parents will still be going ahead virtually on the week beginning 8th February. Additional instructions relating to booking appointments will be communicated towards the end of this month. This evening will give you the opportunity to meet with subject teachers to receive feedback about attitude to learning, strengths and areas for development in each subject. Teachers will be unable to discuss specific grades for individual students to preserve the integrity and objectivity of any process that is put in place to determine the GCSE teacher-assessed grades.

We have had some queries relating to sixth form interviews that would usually begin to take place next month. We anticipate that these will be moved to after half term.

We are continuing to plan leavers' activities for year 11. This year more than ever we need to celebrate the resilience, positivity, can-do attitudes and achievements of our students. We are hoping that Year 11 students will have the opportunity to buy yearbooks and hoodies so that they have memorabilia of their 5 Years at King Edward VI School. Although we still have a scheduled date of Thursday 24th June for the prom, we are mindful that this is looking less likely at this current time.

Please remind students that although we are not seeing them face to face, we are here to support them and their tutors and teachers can be contacted via SMHW.

We will continue to keep you updated with developments.

Yours Sincerely,



**Mr A Hayward**  
**Achievement Lead – Year 11**