



St Michael's Catholic College

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Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

Vice Principal: Ms Kathleen Faherty

7th January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Remote Learning Provision for Year 11 and Year 13 and Public Examinations Summer 2021

The Secretary of State for Education confirmed yesterday that GCSE and A' Level examinations will not take place in the summer as planned and that school based assessments in some form would be used to determine students' grades. We do not yet have any further information as to what this may mean. We are also still awaiting a decision about CTEC/LIBF courses in terms of exams due to take place next week and in the summer. A final decision about next week's CTEC/LIBF exams will be made tomorrow once we receive the clarification we have requested from the examination board.

My immediate concern is that students do not feel too unsettled or disheartened by this news. They still need to work hard, focus on their studies and fully complete their GCSE/A' Level/CTEC courses. At the point that students can return to the college site for face to face teaching it is highly likely we will run mock examinations or a series of assessments which will provide staff with the additional evidence required to generate grades. The format of this will depend on the final arrangements for teacher/centre assessments that are due to be confirmed by Ofqual and the Department of Education in approximately 3-4 weeks' time and we will of course inform parents/carers and students when these arrangements are confirmed. Therefore, I would be grateful if parents/carers and students would avoid contacting any teachers regarding possible grades and assessments, I am aware this may be done with the best of intentions, but it is not fair to put staff in this position when we don't have any confirmed arrangements in place.

In the meantime, students in Year 11 and Year 13 have a full timetable of remote learning which matches their normal timetable and covers all of the content of their courses which would have been delivered if they were on the college site. This starts with live registration at 8:50am every day in tutor Google classrooms which is compulsory for all students. We expect all students to complete all work set on google classroom and in live lessons set by their teachers, as all work they completed could potentially contribute to final grades. If students do not meet remote learning expectations or contribute to live lessons in the expected way arrangements will be made for them to safely attend our onsite provision as they will be at risk of underachieving.

If parents/carers or students have any queries or concerns please contact your child's Leader of Learning in the first instance. We will do everything we can to support our Year 11 and Year 13 students, parents and carers in every way possible this academic year and we know how much potential our students have to achieve academic success despite the challenges of a further lockdown. We will also be providing students with support for their emotional wellbeing and ensuring there are regular opportunities for students to participate in spiritual and wellbeing activities from home.

Thank you for your support at this time, it is essential that we continue to work in partnership together for the benefit of all students.

Yours faithfully
Ms F. Corcoran
Principal



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