



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer Examinations, 2021

I am writing to keep you updated on the latest information surrounding the GCSE summer examinations. As staff, we are disappointed that our Year 11 students won't be able to sit their GCSE and come away with the grades they have worked so hard for. Yesterday's announcement stated that GCSE exams would not take place as normal, and that the Secretary of State for Education would be working with Ofqual to put in place alternative arrangements. At the current time we have no further information on what this may entail, but will update you as soon as we have details.

At St Edward's education is a journey, and this will continue whatever happens as students continue to work to increase their knowledge and understanding through remote learning, and as we prepare them for the next stages of their lives. The plan over the next few weeks remains the same – all Year 11 students will complete the content of their courses and fill any knowledge gaps, and we will then start to prepare them for assessments that could come their way this summer. More information regarding this will be sent out in the weeks to come.

Post-16 Options

To support students in making decisions about their Post-16 studies, there are several events in the coming weeks that I would like to highlight. The first of these is Year 11 parent-teacher consultation evening, which is next Thursday. Secondly at the end of next week, students will be invited to an online information event about applying to sixth form at St Edward's – there will be a chance for students to submit questions that they have so that the event is as useful as possible.

We are also making plans to schedule progression interviews with all of the Year 11 students. The aim of these interviews is to provide each student with support and guidance about their choices for next year. For those students planning to apply to study A-Levels or other courses here at St Edward's, these interviews will be with a member of the sixth form team so they can discuss their desired study options and suitability. Students who are considering not staying at St Edward's will also have a Progression Interview. These will be with the Year 11 team with support from other members of staff. The aim of these interviews will be to discuss where the students have applied or are thinking of applying to. In addition, we also have the support of our careers advisor Aaron Rigby with whom we can arrange virtual one-to-one interviews for students who are not sure what their next step might be, or who require extra support in understanding the different options that are available to them.

We will continue to update you on any further information we receive over the coming days and weeks.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the past few weeks and please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns or questions.

Yours sincerely,

Luke Kemish

Key Stage 4

Director of Learning