



14<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well.

Thank you for engaging in the remote parents' evening last night. I am sorry that we had some technical issues part way through. This was a technical issue on the provider's part and we were made aware that many other schools were in the same position. Thanks to our ICT team, we were able to inform all staff quickly and I hope that you received my text messages informing you of the fault.

I am glad that it was rectified so that many parents could continue with their appointments. Obviously, some appointments will have been affected and we will be in touch very soon with relevant parents to find an alternative so that the conversations can still happen.

I also want to update you in terms of the recent mock examinations that students have undertaken. As you will know, over Christmas schools were given new, informal information about the position with regard to examinations this summer. We do not have a clear picture at the moment. Information is fluid and we do not know any more than you. As soon as we have a directive, we will inform you and we will begin to follow the pathway. What we do know is that it is likely that internal data will form part of the picture: mock examinations form part of this internal data picture.

We were due to issue mock exam results directly to the students. This is something that many schools do: it is a way of giving students an experience of how it feels to open an envelope with their results before the actual formal examinations. Being in lockdown has made that impossible and I did not want to simply email results straight to students as an alternative. After all they have been through, and with the uncertainty of their examination series, I did not want to further impact on the mental health of our young people.

Last night, at parents' evening, you will have had conversations with relevant teachers and they will have given you a clear message about whether your child is on track or not in terms of their progress in each subject. They will also have discussed relevant strategies with you.

The mock examination data will be sent to parents by Tuesday lunchtime, and not directly to students. That way, I am satisfied that students will have someone to discuss their results with them. Following that, there will be further communication with school so that we can inform you of the next steps and of any intervention that is required. We will also be offering supportive conversations in order to ensure that students are feeling settled and resilient.

Thank you for your support.

With very best wishes,



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Head Teacher

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