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Headteacher: Mr M Wignall

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Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to have Year 11 back in school and are so impressed with how they have already adapted to their school routines.

Recently we sent out a recording of an assembly outlining our plans for the awarding of GCSEs based on the information that we have currently.

We have been working hard since to put together a roadmap that we can share with you.

This is founded on the principles outlined in the assembly. To be sensitive to the wellbeing of our students while giving them the opportunity to perform at their best.

We appreciate the need for assurances and certainties in the current climate. We have done our best to create a flexible route that will accommodate the further guidance we are expecting from the Exam Boards before Easter. Our provisional roadmap is outlined below (please see the video link below to the Year 11 assembly, which explains this in more detail):

- Monday 8 – Monday 15 March Covid Testing
- Monday 22 March – Thursday 2 April Practical Assessments & teaching time
- Monday 19 – Wednesday 28 April Assessment Window 1
- Thursday 29 April – Friday 14 May Practical Assessments & teaching time
- Monday 17 – Wednesday 26 May Assessment Window 2
- Monday 7 – Thursday 17 June Grading Judgements are compiled and checked in school
- Friday 18 June Grades submitted to Exam Boards for checking
- Thursday 12 Aug Results awarded by the Exam Boards & Appeals are open

The roadmap above allows students time in practical subjects to complete coursework, opportunities to revisit prior learning and for further opportunities for assessment to inform teachers' judgements. This will be used, in consideration with other evidence, to assist teachers in making judgements.

The roadmap will be supported by guided revision and key learning points will be revisited in lessons.

The assessments will take place in classes over two windows one after Easter and one before May half term, they will not be full GCSE papers and will typically be 40 minutes in length. The assessments will focus on aspects of the course studied, the scope of the assessments will be narrowed down. The number of



assessments will vary across subjects based on a proportion of the typical examination time. Due to the regulations, teachers will not be permitted to share current grades with students but they will feedback to students steps to improve. Access arrangements will be provided for those students eligible.

We will publish a full assessment timetable with detailed arrangements for students during the assessment windows in due course.

Students requiring practical assessments will receive further guidance regarding timings and preparations from their teachers.

We are preparing a Year 11 Study Leave booklet that will give a comprehensive guide to next term and cover all other arrangements. This will be available early in the summer term once we have all the final details from Exam Boards

We await further guidance about how teachers are expected to use a range of evidence to make judgements and are expecting this before Easter. We will share this with parents/carers as soon we know more.

We encourage all students to use the revision guidance available on TEAMS. This includes video tutorials and revision templates.

Please click on this link for the Year 11 assembly: <https://youtu.be/pud12JuKN1E>

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these challenging times. The staff have been working hard in a very constrained timeframe with only provisional guidance to provide the best possible provision for our students while supporting their wellbeing and welfare. Although some detail is yet to be confirmed by the Exam Boards, I do hope the details within this letter will provide reassurance.

We are confident based on our experiences so far that we will, with each other's support, continue to thrive. We are looking forward to celebrating the year group's achievements over the last five years in the course of the next few months and we very much hope that this will include a Prom.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Ashdown', is written on a light blue background.

Mr M Ashdown
Deputy Headteacher