



St Catherine's Catholic School

**Arts College with
Academy Status**

A charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England
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Registered office:
St. Catherine's Catholic School
Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 7QJ

Headteacher: Yvonne Connolly BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Information regarding Year 11 GCSE exams

We have made you aware that at the moment the summer exam GCSE series will not be sat as planned.

We have requested that staff continue with the marking of the PPE exams and the recording of any grades. We imagine that predicted grades will indeed form some part of this award. We are not aware as yet whether examinations of some sort will form part this assessment. Students should NOT assume that no exams of any kind will happen at any point. We can assume that frantic discussions are going on right now with universities, exam boards, unions and other stakeholders. It will be some time before we know what 'cancelled' actually means.

We do not yet have information about what will happen with GCSEs, except that grades will be awarded. In order to begin to prepare we are asking Year 11s to ensure that any GCSE work and folders remain in good order, in case they are called as evidence of a grade, as coursework may have been in the past. If your daughter has not got things in order then it would be good that she did so in this period of school closure. This includes some of the PPEs that have been given back to students.

In the meantime, they should stay academically 'fit'. They will not be building up their preparation in the same way, but they should certainly not allow their guard to drop and do nothing. There should be a moderate and sustainable level of preparation taking place, so that if something is put in place they are in pole position. For every student, this may be an opportunity to be even better prepared than they might otherwise be. The parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids comes to mind (Matthew 25: 1-13): 'Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour'!

Please ensure that your daughter arrives tomorrow wearing full school uniform and continues to comply with uniform rules and our Ready, Respectful and Safe behaviour policy for the full duration of the day.

We will update you with as much information as we have, as we get it. We wish you and your girls the very best for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Norbert, Mrs Hayes and Miss Almeder

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