



Dear Parents/Carers

### **Newsletter for Year 11 and 13 – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

I am writing to confirm that the A Level and GCSE examinations will not go ahead in their exact current form this summer but also to confirm that, as the time of writing, there has been no further news about what will replace them.

My two key messages for this morning are:

1. In school we are not saying that exams are cancelled – there will be some sort of method of assessment this year and it is not helpful for students to hear words like ‘cancelled’ as this gives the wrong impression before we know more detail.
2. We will keep working – we will focus on completing courses and also revising the content and skills already covered, more than the revision that prepares for a specific type of exam. That way students will be best prepared for whatever the new arrangements are. Therefore all lessons will continue as normal.

We met y11s and y13s for assemblies yesterday to give the same messages. We will send parents these assemblies so that you have heard what your child has heard. We really focussed in assemblies on controlling what you can control: how you respond to this situation.

There is definitely going to be a statement later today about GCSEs and A Levels. This may provide answers but it might not have the detail yet that we all are looking for. Last year, there was a consultation phase before more details were confirmed and this may happen again. We will of course share all developments with you and make the key decisions that affect our students, for example regarding mock exams. Never before have our Wood Green values been so relevant for our examination students as this week!

Yours sincerely

Mr R Shadbolt  
Headteacher