

03.04.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are keeping well and managing to adapt to this difficult situation we are all in. It seems a very long time ago that the government said that schools should close to all but the children of critical workers and the most vulnerable. During these last 2 weeks I have been very impressed by my whole staff team; they have worked so hard and conscientiously, at this very stressful time, to put a whole raft of new systems in place to enable us to operate within this new climate.

I hope that students have found the online learning materials easily accessible. The variety of online resources, websites and worksheets that have been created to form tailored work packs is really exciting and stimulating for students who are working at home; your positive feedback has been very much appreciated

### **Summer 2020 Examinations**

We have all been awaiting the information that came from the Government today, which informs us how GCSE grades will be awarded for the summer 2020 examination series.

Please read the [letter from Ofqual](#) which explains how schools will calculate grades that will then be submitted to the examinations boards for moderation and final issuing of grades. The letter states;

*“Your school or college will consider a range of things like your classwork and homework; your results in assignments and any mock exams; any non-exam assessment or coursework you might have done; and your general progress during your course.”*

The following paragraph will hopefully provide additional reassurance to parents and students.

*“Your school or college is not required to set additional mock exams or homework for your centre assessment grade, and you won’t be disadvantaged if you were not set, or were unable to complete, any work given out after schools were closed.”*

Please find updated letter on the Online Learning page for further information.

Results will be issued in the summer by the awarding bodies within a timescale that allows students progression to post 16 provisions to be unaffected.

We haven’t received notification about vocational qualifications as yet but we will let you know as soon as we do.

### **What we are doing**

Over the last 2 weeks you will have seen additional information on our website.

The parent and student pages have links to support organisations and contact details for Goldwyn Teachers, Designated Safeguarding Leads and Mental Health First Aiders.

From the phone calls and home visits that have been carried out so far, we have been able to signpost community support such as foodbanks and online youth activities as well as supporting families with referrals to Early Help or Social Care.

### **Staying safe**

Whilst it is clear that the government advice states that people should remain safely at home where it is possible to do so, we have been able to provide for a small number of students who are children of critical workers or those who are more vulnerable. In order to maintain this level of support for those most in need we ask that you continue to utilise the pastoral and web-based support we are offering. I know that staff have enjoyed the communication they have been able to maintain with you and with your children so far and, after Easter, we plan to offer additional support in the form of counselling, video chats, newsletters to add to the phone calls you are currently receiving. We would welcome any photos of fun activities that you are doing at home that we could put in our online newsletter. Please send to your centre's learning lead (please see student pages or contacts page for email addresses)

### **FSM**

For those students who are entitled to Free School Meals we will be moving over to the new government scheme after Easter. Similar to last week, this will also be a weekly voucher scheme, delivered to your email address.

Finally, I would like to join the many parents who have been in contact, to say thank you to Goldwyn's fantastic staff, all of whom are committed to supporting our children in a variety of ways, from taxi driving, to ringing parents, providing food and constant cleaning, for working all hours to set up an entire online learning system and resources and to those who are working in school looking after the children who have been attending.

I hope you all have a safe and peaceful Easter. Please use the helplines and email contacts you have been provided with if you have any concerns during the holiday. If there is any change to the government's guidance for schools over Easter, I will post these on our website. In any event, staff will make contact with you over the next 2 weeks to find out how you are.

Best wishes,

Charlotte Lewis  
Principal