

# gilesacademy

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am writing to you today on what should have been the final day of term, with Term 4 being a surreal and challenging time for us all. Understandably I have not yet received any update or information with regards to a return to school date, as it looks too early for this at this stage of the national situation that we are all living through.

However, please be reassured that I will update you the moment I am told anything about a potential return to school.

I have been informed that the Government's official advice on the 'cancelled' public summer examinations is due and I am hoping to be able to update you early next week, with news about how grades will be calculated for our Year 11 students. I know that the students are concerned about how their grades will be determined and I have already told them that they can be reassured we will do all we can under the guidance to ensure that the grades that each student achieves are the right grades for them.

I will be writing to students in Year 11 once we have received and thoroughly processed all of the guidance and am clear about what will be required of the staff and what data and other information they will have to provide.

Our Year 11 cohort have also already been told that we will work hard to make sure they are not the 'forgotten' year group and as well as confirming details about examination results, we will make sure they can have their end of year celebrations, such as the Prom. We cannot confirm what this will look like or any dates ... but these students will have their day!

Additionally, our commitment to students will be seen in other areas and experiences that we will endeavour to not be 'forgotten', such as DofE; fieldtrips; etc. We will be working in Terms 5 and 6 to make sure we can rearrange as many opportunities for our young people as possible.

As we move into what would traditionally have been the Easter break, please be reassured that the school will remain open throughout the week, with a senior member of staff in school daily to take any calls and emails off the system. We have put this measure in place to support our Key Worker families and all our families and we will always endeavour to reply to all communication promptly.

I wanted to also take the time to thank again all of our staff and parents / carers for all the support you are providing to our learners so that they can complete their daily online lessons ... you are all doing a fantastic job!

As we have already communicated, following parental feedback additional work will not be set over the Easter break, as this can be seen as valuable time for students to be able to catch up with tasks previously set so that all students can make a fresh start on work tasks from the start of Term 5 on Monday 20th April.

Finally, can I wish all families my sincere good wishes and please stay safe at this difficult time for all.

Yours faithfully,



Katie Belcher  
Deputy Headteacher