



THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2020

Dear Parents / Carers; Staff and Students in Key Stage 4,

I wanted to write to you at the end of Term 1, to confirm the current situation regarding:

- **Examinations 2021**

However, please note that this may well be subject to change, which I will update you on as and when any information is published.

The rationale for the decision on examination 2021 is for students to be given more time to prepare for their exams, as it is intended that these will go ahead next summer, underpinned by contingencies for all possible scenarios.

Students will now have more time to prepare for their exams next year, as most GCSEs will be held 3 weeks later to help address the disruption caused by the pandemic. However, it is important to note that one of these weeks is over the May half term break.

The Prime Minister and Education Secretary are clear that they want exams will go ahead, as they see this as being the fairest and most accurate way to measure a student's attainment.

The summer exam series is now planned to:

- **Start on 07 June and end on 02 July for almost all GCSEs**

We will share which exams this impacts on next term with the students.

Please note the for the 2021 examinations, the results days will now be:

- **Friday 27 August for Year 11 GCSEs and BTEC qualifications**

This will mean that students will start the following academic year in September 2021 as normal if they are progressing to Sixth Form or College.

There will be more details published later in the autumn, to ensure students have confidence that they will be fairly treated in terms of assessment in 2021.

Please see the following link for more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/students-to-be-given-more-time-to-prepare-for-2021-exams>

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We believe the three weeks are ultimately important and will benefit our learners, but will not adequately address the impact of time missed for this 2021 cohort, who have been absent from the school environment during lockdown for up to five months. Therefore, in all of the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust schools we are positively planning to deploy many additional strategies to support our learners which will include blended remote learning in case of any further lockdowns in this area; afterschool and holiday intervention; revision resource packs and, although the school will remain fully open to all year groups, we have now moved to setting all lesson work for all students online, as we feel this will better support any students who may need to be absent in the future, so they do not miss any more valuable learning time.

I hope this gives you a brief update on what the Department for Education plans are at this current time and we will adapt and make any changes as required to make sure all our learners achieve the success that they so rightfully deserve.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Conley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that serves as a decorative underline.

MRS LUCY CONLEY
SLAT Executive Headteacher