



Dear all Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all in good health and that this lockdown period has not been too challenging for you and your family. The news about the effectiveness of the vaccine is very positive, and it looks as though we are in the final stages of the pandemic.

It has been wonderful to be back in a full school, working alongside teachers and students. Nothing beats working with young people because of their energy and optimism. Thanks to the fantastic efforts of staff, students and parents, we have been well-placed to move back into classroom teaching. Please do not worry about media reports of 'lost learning'. We will manage curriculum progress over the following weeks, months and years in an organised and measured way. All will be well.

This week, we have been working with Centre Assessed Grades guidance for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. As you can imagine, moving the responsibility for student outcomes from exam boards to schools is a significant undertaking. However, we are designing a system that will reward hard work to enable those students to gain a sense of achievement for their grades. In simple terms, we ask them to work hard, complete the work set, listen to teachers' feedback, and keep trying to improve their grades.

To ensure that we have planned the processes, systems, and policies for the half-term after Easter, we have taken the decision to add an additional INSET day on **Friday 26th March**. All students will be set independent work to complete during the day.

With kind regards

Liam Collins
Principal