



SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

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Dear parents, carers and students of year 11,

Re: Update

Undoubtedly, you will all be as taken aback by last night's announcement from the government as we were at STFS. We appreciate the range of emotions that this will generate, and wish to reassure you that, as in all circumstances, your tutor & I are here to support you and your subject teachers will be enormously keen to offer support where they can. Throughout this pandemic you have shown as a year group phenomenal resilience to deal with the challenges thrown at you again and again. I mentioned before the Christmas break that I have been blown away by the maturity and effort that you all put into your mock exams, catch up work, and wider efforts in school.

At present, you will note that there is not yet a clear picture about how the announcement will impact on examinations as a whole. It may be that whilst there is an intent to change the examination cycle and the number or type of exams, that some form of examination will remain, and this may sit alongside other forms of assessment. Please be reassured that as soon as there is any announcement relating to examination, we will let you know.

We need to assume that all students must continue to work towards their examination subjects, and that assessments will take in a breadth of subject matter, as well as determine the skills and capacity of individual students. It is therefore important that we can demonstrate with accuracy the breadth and depth of your learning. Regardless of any changes we will need to have as much evidence as possible of what students are capable of to ensure that all grades earned are representative of your ability.

As a school we would like to arrange another round of mock examinations and assessments later in the year if this is to your advantage, and if not the minimum will be the demonstration of your learning across the full extent of your courses. This will include topics that have yet to be taught, and will be taught in lessons moving forwards. **As such I need to advise you all that live lessons will be continuing on your timetable as planned.** Your continued efforts to learn the content and how to prepare for examinations is both an invaluable life skill and one that will also ensure that you are prepared for any eventuality this year.

You'll understandably have concerns about the impact these decisions will have on Sixth form, apprenticeships, and college applications, and we will pass on any information as soon as we have it relating to this. This may take some time, and Sixth forms, colleges and apprenticeship providers were pragmatic and student centred in their decision making this year, so please be reassured that all will have your best interests at heart and will be supportive of your future planning.



At STFS we are working hard to ensure that your mock exam results are sent to you next week hopefully and your teachers will be in touch to explain how they are going to give feedback on these examinations to help you assess strengths and work-ons in the next term. This may take the form of 1-1 meetings or class wide feedback within your live lessons. This feedback is invaluable and I would urge you all to make the most of this opportunity even with the current adversity of remote learning.

Finally, please ensure that if you are worried about anything remember that your tutors, teachers and Learning Leads are all here to support you and will all be available to listen and assist you if you have any questions. Please do use these resources. Once any more information comes to light we will be in touch with an update.

Yours faithfully,

Mat Payne
Yr 11 Learning Lead

