

# Ambition · Pride · Success

28th April 2020

**Dear Families** 

I hope you continue to remain safe and well.

### When will school be open again?

Boris Johnson was very clear yesterday that the lockdown is likely to continue for a while yet. We plan to continue setting work for students in the same way in the coming weeks up to May half-term. Once there is further information about any easing of the lockdown, and the implications for schools, we will start to communicate how this will apply to us. It is very likely that some form of social distancing in schools will be necessary, as part of any phased re-opening in due course. Like you, I am waiting to see what the government decides in the coming weeks.

#### Exams in Summer 2021

Supporting current Year 10 and Year 12 students is going to be hugely important to support their preparations for public exams in summer 2021. Although the focus in currently on Centre Assessed Grades (to replace exam grades) for our current Year 11 and Year 13 students, we are aware that Year 10 and Year 12 students will require significant support once school re-opens. Much more detail about support for students in these year groups will follow once school is open again. During this closure period, we would urge all Year 10 and Year 12 students to do all they can to keep working, and to remain in touch with their teachers for support.

## 'Thank You' to the NHS and Key Workers

It was wonderful to see so many students, family members and staff wearing blue last Thursday. Thank you for sending your photographs to us! We have shared many of these photographs on our website, on our Twitter feed and Facebook page and you can now view our staff video too here: <a href="https://vimeo.com/412342897">https://vimeo.com/412342897</a>

### An update on our new building

Our planning application has now been made and meetings have continued remotely between the school, the Department for Education and our contractor during the past few weeks. The timescales have not changed as a result of school closure, and it is hoped that work will begin this summer once planning permission has been granted.

### **Keeping in touch**

We are continuing to contact families, led by our pastoral teams, to check whether there is anything further we can do to support, including providing help with work queries. We are prioritising contact on need, but if there is anything you require support with, please do not hesitate to be in touch with us. We want to help as much as is possible at this time.

Please do continue to stay at home and stay safe to protect lives.

Yours faithfully

**Robin Newman** 

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Principal

