

**TO PARENTS/CARERS OF
YEAR 11 STUDENTS**

Our Ref: SKN/lha

3rd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As we move into the Easter holiday period I felt I should write to you to offer both support and how we are continuing to support the education of young people.

We are experiencing unprecedented circumstances with the Coronavirus crisis. We know that many families are experiencing new challenges – this may be related to whole families now having to work from home, anxiety over family members' health and wellbeing or changing financial situations. The one consistent factor throughout this has been, and will continue to be, the support we can offer. If you as a family require support in any form please do reach out to us using the email address hwaclosure@clf.uk. We were delighted to be able to offer our amazing Year 11 students a 'Celebration Assembly' and 'Guard of Honour' on their last day at Hanham Woods Academy. We continue to explore possibilities of the students still having access to a 'Prom' event but the current uncertainty means I have no further details available at the moment.

Today, Ofqual (Government office responsible for regulating qualifications and examinations in England) announced more details of how GCSE grades will be awarded this summer. The underlying message is that students should not be disadvantaged in accessing the next stages of their education, employment or training. Schools will be asked to submit a grade for every student in each of their subjects and to order students in each subject by performance (to allow for fine tuning by exam boards). These grades will be based on a wide range of evidence such as classwork, homework, assignments, coursework, mock exams and general progress during the course. Once submitted, these grades will undergo rigorous moderation to standardise grades across the country. Schools MUST NOT share the grades they submit with students or parents/carers. It is anticipated that the students will receive their grades on or before the date they were scheduled to receive them in the summer – Thursday 20th August 2020. The Government have also said that schools do not need to set any additional exams or homework to award your grades. I do believe it would be very beneficial for students to continue to work on subjects they are intending to study next year. This may be revising GCSE content or by looking ahead at Post 16 content. Students may also want to develop skills that will be useful in the intended career or skills that would be beneficial in later life.

In particular we will support our Year 11 students into their next provision and would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we have several Post 16 provisions across the CLF, and that we would welcome applications from your child. As your child is currently in our CLF Year 11, we will be in a position to confirm a place. We will send out more detail on the courses that are available next week; however, in the meantime, further information can be found using the following links:

Boomsatsuma - <https://www.boomsatsuma.education/>

CLF Post 16 - <https://www.clfpost16.org/>

Digitech Studio School - <https://digitechstudioschool.co.uk/>

Winterstoke Hundred Academy - <https://winterstokehundredacademy.clf.uk/>

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I would like to finish by reminding everyone that one of the ways we can all help beat the Coronavirus is to follow hygiene and social distancing guidelines issued by the Government. Please can I urge you and your children to stay in at all times. There should be no socialising in the community of any sort, and whilst we know this will be a challenge for all of us, it is essential for the protection of everyone.

Please stay safe, stay strong and do reach out if you need us.

Yours sincerely



Mr S T Kneller
Academy Principal