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Headteacher: Phil Midworth

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you with some important updates specific to year 11 and to offer your child our continued support in their next steps in education. For many of our students their time at Dorchester Learning Centre is coming to an end.

### **GCSE Centre Assessed Grades**

As you will be aware the Government has asked us to send the exam boards some specific information about year 11 learners' work and achievements, in each of the subjects they have been studying. This information will allow the exam boards to provide standardised grades across schools.

Further information on Centre Assessed Grades can be found using the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2020>

If you have any specific questions regarding Centre Assessed Grades please contact David Dinsmore in the first instance. However, be aware the information we can share before the results day is extremely limited.

### **Results day**

GCSE results will be released on Thursday 20 August. There is a consultation underway to determine what arrangements will take place to allow learners to collect their results safely. As always our staff will be on hand to support learners at this time, possibly remotely. I will ensure that this information is shared before the end of July.

### **Free School Meal Vouchers**

If you have been in receipt of FSM for your child, you will continue to receive vouchers up to and including Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July at present. We are awaiting further confirmation regarding the issue of free school meals vouchers for the Summer Holidays for year 11.

### **Year 11 Celebrations**

Due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding the Government's guidelines, rules on social distancing and public gatherings in the future, we regret that we will be unable to host a year 11 leavers BBQ this year. This is truly a fantastic event for students and parents to celebrate the end to their year 11 time. I am devastated we cannot hold this but if it is possible to organise a celebration of their time with us in the future, should government guidelines change, we will of course endeavour to do this.

### **Next steps and welfare**

Whilst the School is currently closed to the majority of learners, systems remain in place to advise year 11 learners on their future steps and we continue to encourage learners to secure their plans for college courses beginning in September 2020. If your child would like further advice about applying for courses, please contact Clare, the school's careers adviser at: [clare.hymas@ansbury.co.uk](mailto:clare.hymas@ansbury.co.uk).



We will continue to offer support to families for the remaining 3 weeks of term and welfare calls will continue on a Monday from designated members of staff.

### **Transition to college**

Due to the current climate being so unpredictable, we are investigating the possibility of appointing a transition coach to support our year 11 leavers and families from August through to October half term. This support could involve some mentoring and wellbeing support to ensure this major transition is successful. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

We are also speaking to the local authority regarding a small selection of students staying on roll at DLC until October half term. This would allow us to provide extra support for those students who are struggling to decide upon their transition to college. I would highlight that this would be for a very limited number of students and we would only be able to offer some small mentoring opportunities possibly once a week. We will speaking to parents/carers of these students in the next week, once details have been confirmed.

Finally...

I know the last few months have been devastating for some families and friends and we all find ourselves in uncharted waters. It is with great disappointment we cannot say our formal farewells to our wonderful year 11s, who have grown in character, resilience and maturity over the time we have known them. I have written before of my pleasure to have known every one of them and the special place they will hold as my first year 11 as a headteacher.

I know I speak for all of my staff in wishing you and your family the best for the future and thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

*Phil Midwworth*

Phil Midworth  
Headteacher

