



3 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Year 11 students,

I trust you and your families are all safe and well during this difficult time.

I am fully aware that the year ended abruptly for you all. Just when we were focusing on the revision sessions to get you ready for your exams, you have been informed that your exams will no longer take place. I can only imagine how this news has left you; both emotional and worried about the future. These circumstances have brought many changes to everyone's lives and we must all remember **our well-being is what matters the most.**

I write not only to share my sympathy but also to say that **we have not forgotten about you.** We miss teaching you, talking and supporting you. I personally miss going to the tutorial sessions to catch up with you and your tutors. Remember that I am still available for you should you need support and guidance. Please email me at <u>maringog@skdrive.org</u>. Your teachers, tutors as well as Mrs Slater and Mrs Robinson are also available for support. Do not hesitate to contact us, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Although this academic year ended abruptly, we will consider how we can celebrate your end of Year 11 when school returns to normal.

Prom and Yearbook

We are still planning to celebrate your prom as it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We are considering the end of Term 1 (October) or Term 2 (December) and will keep you updated in due course.

Sixth Form applications

You can get advice and guidance from Ms Hayer (*Careers and Work Related Learning Advisor*) <u>hayerr@skdrive.org</u> and we would still welcome your application for September 2020. Mr Colebourne (*Head of Sixth Form*) <u>colebournes@skdrive.org</u> is conducting course consultation meetings over the phone. Please note that the <u>Sixth Form Scholars</u> <u>Award</u> still stands.

Academic support

Your teachers are working really hard to ensure you have the best resources available online. **Please make sure you keep up with the work to continue your academic progress.** In particular, you should be studying and reading for the subjects you are planning to study in Year 12.

In the meantime, it is worth remembering that Ofqual have stated that they intend to run an exam season, provisionally in the Autumn, for students wishing to improve the grades that they are awarded in the summer. Therefore, for students who may wish to take up this opportunity, our advice would be to keep 'ticking over', particularly in the creation of revision resources and completion of the revision booklets.

Exams and Assessments Update

Ofqual have released their guidance to schools, parents and students on the awarding of GCSE, A-level and EPQ grades. You can read this information in a letter written to students <u>here</u>, and the full guidance <u>here</u>. Please be assured that your qualifications will not be decided upon the basis of your mock exams alone. There has not yet been any further guidance for BTEC subjects; we will share this with you as soon as it is published.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or requests and I will do my best to support you. As I used to say in assembly: "love you all".

Stay safe.

Geraldine Maringo

Mrs Maringo Year 11 Lead