



**KING HAROLD**  
ACADEMY

Dear Year 11

5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

You will by now be aware of the government's decision to order schools to close and move to online learning until February half term at the earliest. You will also know that the GCSE examinations intended for the Summer have now been cancelled. We are still awaiting confirmation on some other qualifications such as BTEC, as they have yet to be formally cancelled.

The government is currently working with Ofqual, the examinations authority, to put 'alternative arrangements' in place. We, like you, are awaiting confirmation of what these will look like in reality. It seems highly likely that some form of Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) will be used, as was the case last year.

If they do use CAGs then the grades provided will use evidence available at the end of the year. A grade would only be provided to a student in a subject, should there be sufficient evidence to do so. It is most likely that all schools will be open before the end of this academic year, meaning that you will again be in lessons at KHA, preparing for assessments, that provide some additional evidence of your knowledge and progress, so that your teachers can as accurately as possible award grades they believe you would have received in a normal examination season.

Your teachers will be doing all they can to ensure that you are able to keep up with your learning, with lessons will be set to follow your existing timetable. Many more of these lessons will be recorded, but a growing number will be live lessons, where you will be able to engage with your teachers and ask questions as in a normal lesson. Please also look at the lessons provided by the Oak National Academy, as many of the lessons available there are high quality and will support your learning well.

As soon as we are sure of the government's arrangements, we will organise a Year 11 virtual parents evening so that you and your parents can have a timed slot to talk directly with any of your subject teachers.

We understand the frustrations and concerns that some of you have over this closure, but we have great faith in you and your abilities to succeed. Though pure determination many of you have demonstrated remarkable progress since returning in September, we know this from the assessments you sat in November. We need you now to show even greater determination in keeping up with your learning whilst not in school - we know it is a challenge, but we also know how capable you are.

We have been promised additional laptops by the government, but do not know how many this is likely to be. As soon as they arrive, they will be allocated on a greatest needs priority basis.

I will write again as soon as I have more information to give you, but in the interim, keep up with your learning!

Good luck and best wishes.

Mr Fisher  
Executive Headteacher