



**LEIGHTON PARK**  
FOUNDED 1890

24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Year 11 Students, Parents and Guardians,

## **GCSE GRADES AND GUIDED DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMME**

We now write with more information about how GCSE grades will be awarded this summer and to outline the Guided Distance Learning programme for Year 11 to follow up to Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020. This was the date when study leave would have normally commenced.

The government has announced that students will not simply be awarded predicted grades. Instead, Ofqual will be using a broad range of evidence, including non-exam assessments (coursework), mock results, and teacher assessments of the likely grade outcome at the end of the course. The latter is based on a teacher's judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead. All this information will be used by Ofqual to arrive at a calculated grade for each student.

The aim is to publish calculated grades to students before the end of July. In terms of a permanent record, the calculated grades will be indistinguishable from those provided in other years. Ofqual will also aim to ensure that the distribution of grades follows a similar pattern to that in other years, so that this year's students do not face a systematic disadvantage because of these extraordinary circumstances. If students feel their calculated grade does not reflect their performance, then there will be an opportunity to sit an exam, as soon as is reasonably possible after schools open again.

With this advice from the government in mind, we are writing to advise all Year 11 students that they should spend the Easter holiday completing coursework, where applicable. The final date to submit all non-exam assessments is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Furthermore, given that Ofqual will be requesting teacher assessments of likely grade outcomes at the end of the course, Year 11 should maintain their academic momentum during the Easter break. This means students should spend time revisiting notes and completing practice papers for their subjects. This will enable them to be fully prepared for any further teacher assessments that may take place from the week beginning Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 up to the start of the original study leave date of Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020, we will move on to a programme of Guided Distance Learning that will prepare students for their Sixth Form studies, whether that is at

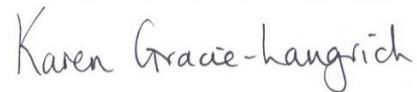
2/.....

Leighton Park or elsewhere. For Year 11, we hope to begin delivering the A Level or IB subject options chosen by each student, building in support for the transition to Sixth Form with an integrated programme of study skills. More information on the Guided Distance Learning programme for Sixth Form academic pathways will follow in due course.

Should you have any questions please do get in touch.



**Beverly Elridge**  
Head of Year 10 and 11



**Karen Gracie-Langrick**  
Deputy Head, Academic