



27 January 2021

Dear Year 11 students and families,

I hope this letter finds you well and safe during these continuing difficult and challenging times.

The Ofqual consultation on how GCSE grades should be awarded in Summer 2021 closes on Friday 29 January. We will then eagerly await the outcomes from this consultation and further information on what actions will be required for the awarding of grades and we will regularly update you to keep you informed of developments.

In the meantime, it is essential you continue to engage with the remote learning provided. While many of you are to be commended on your excellent engagement with remote learning, this is sadly not the case for all. You are expected to attend all your lessons online, starting with your Form Time at 8.20am and lessons at 8.45am.

You need to submit high quality work and act on the feedback from your teachers to support you in making the progress of which you are capable. The evidence and quality of your remote learning will be one of the elements that will be taken into consideration by your teachers when arriving at grades to be submitted to the various examination boards in the summer term.

If you are doing coursework or portfolios in the following subjects:

Art

Sport & Leisure

Music

Hospitality & Catering

I.C.T

Construction

Vocational Skills

It is vital that this is completed to a high standard, meeting the deadlines that have been set. The standard of your coursework will be another element that will be taken into consideration when arriving at the grades to be submitted to the exam board for that subject.

Your teachers are currently writing your second Year 11 reports, which will be sent to your families just after the half-term break during week beginning 22 February.

Following receipt of the report, senior teachers will be contacting families to discuss the report and action that can be taken to support you in reaching your potential.

It is regrettable and disappointing that you are unable to be on site for 'face-to-face' teaching and learning. Be assured you are sorely missed by all at St Paul's and we are all looking forward to the time when the Government announces our school can re-open and welcome you back on site.

In the meantime, it is so important that you look after yourselves:

- Eat well and healthily.
- Get sufficient sleep.
- Establish good habits and routines, including plenty of physical exercise.



- Set time aside for relaxation and interests.
- Take regular breaks from technology.
- Make time to talk to others, whether that be family, friends, teachers or Learning Mentors.

Last year, when I welcomed you back on site after the first national lockdown, I shared with you the prayer card my parents gave to me all those years ago when I was studying for my exams and in closing this letter, I would like to share it with you again.

*When things go wrong, as they sometimes will
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill
When the funds are low, but the debts are high
And you want to smile but have to sigh
When care is pressing you down a bit
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.*

*Life is strange in its twists and turns
As every one of us sometimes learns
Any many a failure turn about
When we might have won if we'd stuck it out.*

*Don't give up, though the pace is slow
You may succeed with another blow
Success is failure turned inside out
The silver tint of the cloud of doubt.*

*You can never tell how close you are
It may be near when it seems so far
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things seem worst, that you must not quit.*

You have all come too far not to succeed in the last few months of your education at St Paul's Academy. Keep up your excellent efforts and remember the guidance you have been given on Resilience.

Below are some details of organisations which you may find useful.

Organisation	Helpline
Young Minds	0808 802 5544
Mindfulness	https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety - depression/mindfulness/
BBC	Educational Programmes GCSE Bitesize
Samaritans	https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/contact-samaritan/
National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children - NSPCC	0808 800 500 help@nspcc.org.uk https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safe /

Childline	0800 1111 https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/contacting-childline/
Online Safety	www.internetmatters.org www.thinkuknow.co.uk CEOP — Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command New online app for parents and carers www.vodafone.co.uk/familypledge
Headscape Greenwich	www.headscapegreenwich.co.uk
Families Information Service Greenwich	www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk
Kooth	Kooth.com

With the very best wishes of all the staff at St Paul's Academy.

Miss S Malone
Principal