



18 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 Students,

I hope this letter finds you, your extended family and all your loved ones well and safe as we continue to live in what are still uncertain times.

The last 15 months have been among the most difficult and challenging we all have faced in managing the effects of this pandemic. There has been little which has been normal as a result of COVID-19, particularly for your child, who should have been sitting their public exams this year. There has been such disruption to their learning since March 2020 and they have missed out on so many rites of passage; the exams, the Prom, goodbyes filled with tears and laughter and acknowledgements of all that they have done and achieved in their time at the Academy. We do hope to hold a summer celebration for Year 11 in early July. This will be dependent on the lifting of national restrictions with the Government initiating Step 4 from lockdown.

I would like to take this opportunity to compliment Year 11 on how well they have carried themselves through these difficult times. We are very proud of the kind, resilient young adults they are becoming and we will sorely miss them and continue to keep them in our prayers.

With the cancellation of the examination season, all schools are required to provide a teacher assessed grade for each subject studied. The Ofqual document e-mailed to you last week, 'Student Guide to Awarding Summer 2021' is an excellent publication for students and families in explaining the arrangements in place for awarding grades in summer 2021 and where you can go for additional information.

As the Academy exams and assessments have now been completed for the Teacher Assessed Grades, from Thursday 20 May, Year 11 will no longer be required to be onsite as teaching for the KS4 qualifications is now ended.

Some individual students or groups of students may be required to attend on site, especially for some vocational subjects or to sign relevant documentation as and when requested by the various examination boards. They will be informed in a timely fashion via their school e-mail and Google Classroom if they are required to be on site and will, of course, need to wear full school uniform. Later this term I will write to you with information you and your child will need to know about results day. All students should now use the Post-16 transition resources that will help them prepare as well as possible for their start of their KS5 qualifications. These resources can be found at the top of our school website as a link, as well as on your child's Google Classroom.



We have provided 10 weeks' worth of transition materials; they can use the weekly task sheet to access links to preparation tasks or reading material in the subject areas that link to their chosen subjects for KS5. They can try out tasks from any subject area because any form of study is beneficial in keeping motivated, focused and prepared for Post-16 courses and pathways. This is a chance for your child to give something new a try and further develop their interest in a particular subject they have studied at KS4.

There is also a very useful resource from our partner Sixth Form College, Christ the King, and this will be sent to you with this letter. Please check this document carefully. Within this resource you will find the dates in the final week of June for Sixth Form Preparation Days (for offer holders), links to their Virtual School where transition booklets can be found for all CTK courses to help prepare for Post-16 studies. There is also a free careers guide with activities and tips to help find out more about Post-16 options. The booklet also has links to sign up for Virtual A-Level and BTEC Taster Sessions.

Year 11 Form Tutors have shown the students the Christ the King booklet, as well as what the sign up forms look like.

Many text books were purchased by families or given to students to keep (such as the English Literature Poetry Anthology) however, we would be grateful if your child would return any that belong to the Academy via the School Reception.

If your child would like to donate other resources, such as English novels or CGP revision guides, to the Academy for younger students to use, these would be gratefully received and again can be left at the School Reception.

In addition, the Academy welcomes donations of school uniform once all processes are complete, which can be then distributed to families in need. With the financially crippling effects of COVID-19, I can assure you families in receipt of said donations are very appreciated of the kindness of others.

Please also ensure that your child returns their locker key to the box located at Reception.

I would like to end this letter with my thanks to each and every one of you for the great support you have given St Paul's during your child's time at the Academy.

This strong home/school partnership makes our community very special and without your support we would not be the successful school we are. Although your child is leaving us, I hope you will continue to take an interest in the Academy and follow the achievements and successes of our school community on our website and Twitter page.

I hope your child will always do what they can with what they have and wherever they are, remembering that what they are is God's gift to them, and what they become is their gift to God and others.

I wish you and your families a very happy and safe summer and all the best for the future and leave you with a final reflection:

God seeks to use your hands to heal the world
Your feet to make the pathway level
Your voice to speak the truth to all
And your hearts to love one another
Use your creativity with integrity
Choose carefully what you learn
Choose kind words and tender actions
So that you can help to create God's dwelling place here.

With my very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Malone." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S" and a period at the end.

Miss S Malone
Principal

A solid blue horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature area.