

Dear Parents

As you will be aware, we are having to close college from 4pm today. Teachers have been working hard preparing lessons and work for the students to complete at home. At this stage, it isn't clear how the exam boards will decide on grades for those students in their final year so it is essential that all students continue to do the work set as it may become evidence of their potential grade. It is equally important that students in the lower sixth carry on with their college work as they cannot afford to miss this time or they will be at a disadvantage next year. The message to all of our students is clear: we are continuing lessons as much as possible but remotely. It is vital that students check their college emails daily and staff can be contacted via their email too.

I know that many families will have younger children at home and our students may be required to look after them to allow you to work, so I ask that you support them keeping a balance to allow them to still complete their college work. We are mindful that the longer the college is closed, the bigger the potential negative effect this could have on the mental health and wellbeing of our students. Many of our students are also rightly upset and angry that their exams have been cancelled and are worried about what will happen in the next few months. Please talk to your son/daughter about their college work and regularly check how it is going as this will help to maintain their interest and enthusiasm for completing the work and making progress. There will be a break from teachers setting work from Monday 6th April for two weeks for the Easter holiday but college work will resume on Monday 20th April.

These are uncertain times for us all but we remain committed to ensuring all of our students are making progress academically and personally and if there is anything we can do to support families at this time, please let us know. The advice is that all students should work from home where possible but if there are any students for whom being in college is **absolutely** essential, then they will be able to use the library from 9am to 4pm but there won't be any café facilities.

We will ensure the college website is kept up to date and in the meantime, may I thank you for your support.

Best wishes
Phil

Principal