

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear parent/carers

**Year 13 update:**

Following the updated advice around the cancellation of examinations provided by the government which was released to schools after school closed on Friday 20th March (please see link below), we are revising our plans for teaching and learning for Year 13.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

Where teachers have not quite yet finished teaching the content of the course, they will be setting work on Google classroom/email to allow students to complete the course, however it is optional but strongly advised for students to complete this learning.

For subjects which have finished the course, teachers will be advising students to use their time to prepare reading for their university courses/apprenticeship applications/intended destinations. We will be providing general guidance on the online Year 13 Google Classroom area (which all Year 13 students can access) around how to do this. If any student is unsure about what to do next to prepare for their intended destination, please direct them to their sixth form mentor for more personalised advice and guidance in the first instance.

If students still have coursework/non-examined assessments yet to hand in, we would suggest that these should be completed and handed into teachers where possible, as the guidance from Ofqual (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) so far has suggested that the coursework/non-examined assessments are a source of information that should be included when making teacher assessments, although full details around this are yet to be released. Please see the document link above for frequently asked questions with provided answers from Ofqual regarding coursework/non-examined assessment.

We will study carefully and follow exactly the government and Ofqual's (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) guidance on how qualification grades will be determined this year. We are not able to communicate with parents/carers/students about their individual circumstances at this stage. We will share with you the most up to date information that we have as soon as we receive it. Everyone at Colston's Girls' School and V6 will do everything we can to ensure that every student in every subject is treated fairly.

Finally, we are planning for a Year 13 Leavers' Celebration Event as we sadly had to postpone this event due to the school closure. All Year 13 are invited to contribute to the planning of this event by sharing their ideas with myself, and further details regarding a revised date (likely in the early part of the next academic year) and plans for this will be shared with students and parents/carers as soon as possible.

**Year 12 update:**

Year 12 students will be set work by their class teachers to coincide with their usual timetabled lessons. It is important that students continue to work as effectively as they can at home to reduce falling behind with course content.

At the moment, we are still planning to complete internal Year 12 examinations in June, and if school is still closed by then the expectation would be that students would still undertake these exams at home as best as we can facilitate this. Further details regarding what examinations students will be preparing for will be provided by class teachers.

### **Year 12 Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) examination entries information**


Y12 students preparing for Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) examinations where they have chosen to do this as a fourth subject to take as an Advanced Subsidiary Level and not continue into Advanced Level (A Level) will be assessed in the same way as Year 13 examinations, (see link above) but similarly, we are awaiting precise details around how this will work. The same guidance applies as for Year 13 in terms of completing any coursework/non-examined assessment (please see above). They will also have the option to take the examination either as soon as is reasonably possible after schools reopen or can sit in summer 2021 if they are not satisfied with the grade they receive.

For Y12 students who we have advised must be entered for Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) examinations as we are worried about their progress/attainment: we will withdraw any entries for this purpose and instead develop a programme of intervention to secure their progress, with a review date set before the end of the academic year with parents to discuss the student's progress. If there are still concerns at this stage, students must agree to be entered for the Advanced Subsidiary Level examinations scheduled as soon as is reasonably possible after schools reopen, and if a pass is not achieved in this examination students may not be able to continue to take the full Advanced Level, but would have the option of retaking an Advanced Subsidiary Level in summer 2021.

Finally, Year 12 students will be following an online scheme of learning to provide them with careers advice and guidance to include research and preparation for applying to university and/or apprenticeships or other intended destinations next year, and will still complete planning for a work experience placement (currently scheduled for the first week of the summer holidays, but this is subject to change as necessary).

We appreciate that this is a very unsettling time for all in our school community, and that you may have further queries. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information if needed.

Kind regards



Caroline McClean  
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**HEAD OF SIXTH FORM**