



THE GRANGE SCHOOL

Mr V Murray – Headteacher

5 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope that this letter finds you and your families well during this difficult period of time and I wanted to wish you all a very Happy New Year. I am really very sorry for the confusion and anxiety that will have happened over the last few days around both the public examinations, the mock examinations and whether students will be in school or not. At this point in time we believe the following:

- **The vocational public examinations will continue in January and early February. Students are expected to wear normal school uniform but can have additional clothing to keep warm as windows and doors will be open.**
- **Year 11 and Year 13 mock examinations scheduled for January will not take place at the scheduled time due to the decision for schools to move to remote education for all students.**
- **Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students, unless key worker or vulnerable, will be working remotely from home through a combination of live sessions and work set remotely. The timetable for live lessons for Year 11 and Year 13 from 11 January will be published to you before the end of the week.**
- **Year 11 and Year 13 2021 examinations will not be the same. The government has stated that, 'in the circumstances, we do not think it is possible for all exams in the summer to go ahead as planned. We will accordingly be working with Ofqual to consult rapidly to put in place alternative arrangements that will allow students to progress fairly.'**

At the moment, I am sure that both you and your child will have questions about what will happen in Summer 2021 for Year 11 and Year 13 and Summer 2022 for Year 10 and Year 12. We do not have all the answers at the moment but will try our very best to communicate with you as soon as we can. What I would like to do is reassure you that we will do everything we can to follow the guidance we are given and provide the support needed so students understand and feel prepared for the alternatives. We currently do not know if the announcement means that some examinations will take place or what form of assessments will be used and will await the government announcements. **What is extremely important now is that all students engage with remote education and live lessons and continue with their courses with support from their teachers.**

Please see information below about the public examinations:

Public Examinations

- **Public Examinations in January or February for Year 11, 12 and 13 will go ahead.**
- **For the Morning Session, please arrive between 8.40am and 8.45am via Stapleton House entrance for 9.00am start. For the Afternoon Session, please arrive between 1.40pm and 1.45pm via Stapleton House entrance for 2.00pm start.**
- **Students will need to wear face coverings both in public areas and also during the examinations.**
- **Students will need to wear warm clothes as we will be ensuring there is appropriate ventilation within the exam venues.**
- **There will be appropriate social distancing within the exam venue.**
- **For any students who cannot come due to illness, self-isolation or if they or you as a family believe this is not right for them, we will defer their entries to summer where they will either have a chance to sit their missed exam(s) if they take place or the alternative if exams are not scheduled.**
- **Year 10 will not continue with their public examination for Btec Enterprise Promotion and Finance on 1 February. We believe that it is better to re-enter the students for this to give additional preparation time.**
- **Please see the NHS message below to ensure that you follow the advice for students only to attend for an examination if you are not experiencing symptoms.**

Symptoms of coronavirus

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What to do if you have symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. You and anyone you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone in your support bubble should also stay at home if you have been in close contact with them since your symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.

Many thanks for your time in reading the letter and thanks for your support of your child. If you have a specific question related to the Vocational Public Examinations, please email our Examinations Officer Mrs Cox on vcox@grange.bucks.sch.uk. If you have any other questions please email either Miss Brown on bbrown@grange.bucks.sch.uk or Mr Sabin on dsabin@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Yours faithfully



Becky Brown
Deputy Headteacher