



Year 11 Message from Mr Maltby

7th January 2021

Dear Year 11,

I am writing today to communicate with Year 11 students directly: I do understand if you are feeling confused and unsettled by the changing national situation at such an important time in your studies. I want to reassure you that we are all here to support you at this time.

My next step as your Headteacher is to follow the guidance provided by Ofqual who will decide, with the government, on how and when your grades will now be calculated. It's important that I wait until I receive this further guidance because our school plans need to match what will be expected of all schools nationally. However, I do want to reassure you that whatever arrangements are made for your qualifications, at this stage, Holbrook will ensure that our internal processing will be both robust and fair.

Last term was a term of uninterrupted learning for your year group. Your preparation for your mock exams will have helped you to consolidate this learning. A further decision regarding your mock exams will now be made once we receive Ofqual guidance in order to best ensure that any assessment that you complete will reward you for your hard work. I am sorry I cannot be more precise at this moment but as soon as we receive more national guidance we will update you immediately.

In the meantime, **you must continue to engage as fully as you can in your education.** This will put you in the best position to fulfil your potential and to progress to the next stage in your life. We want you to think of your future lives without limits, despite what is happening right now, and it's really important you attend online lessons and fully engage with remote learning resources so that your teachers can focus on the knowledge and skills you still need to move forward with your studies. Please keep working hard, it really matters.

If there is a problem with obtaining lessons online you must inform us. We have delivered a number of laptops to students in Year 11 and we will ensure that no student is without a laptop. We will be monitoring your attendance to lessons closely and every Year 11 student will receive a phone call from the pastoral team next week to check how you are progressing. Mr Hart will also do a further assembly to all Year 11 students next Wednesday afternoon.

The Academy still intends to continue with our programme of careers interviews so we can support you with your own preparations for life beyond Holbrook. And the National Tutoring Programme will work to support students online alongside the additional support which will be provided by your subject teachers. All lessons will expect you to register at the start and teachers will be available to interact and support at this time. There will also be a regular series of live lessons from all core subjects; differentiated to support and challenge. You must engage with all of your lessons and all of the extension activities set by your teachers.

Despite our distance from you at this time, your school will continue to connect with you and we will keep you updated every step of the way.

Please take good care of yourself and keep going with the studying.

Mr Maltby