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BISHOPSHALT SCHOOL

"Above all else a place for learning"

January 2021

Dear Parents & Students of Years 11, 12 and 13

We hope this finds you and your families well.

I am sure you have been following the news closely in relation to the announcement that the GCSE and A-Level examinations will not take place this summer in the normal way. Currently we are awaiting further clarification from the DFE as to what this will look like for schools but it seems reasonable to suggest they will use a similar system to the previous year where schools had to produce Centre Assessed Grades. This involved teachers using classwork, homework, coursework, mock exams and any other assessments completed during the course of study.

However, the government have not ruled out the possibility of some form of further assessment.

With this in mind we urge all students to consider these three points very carefully.

1. Your hard work, effort, attendance to online lessons and work you continue to produce will still be used to help form an evidenced based portfolio of your studies. We have the same high expectations of you as we would if you were physically present in the lessons.
2. The school will hold a very rigorous moderation process to ensure the system that we are advised to follow will be fairly and accurately applied.
3. This will not affect your ability to progress to the next stage of your educational career. Grades will be given and honoured with the grade you receive holding the same value as grades awarded in previous years. In the long run it will not matter how your grade was generated, the key component will be the grade you receive.

We have sent an E-Mail to all students who were due to take the CTEC and Cambridge National components in the January exam sitting, explaining our decision to postpone these until a more appropriate time. However, if you feel this may significantly disadvantage you then you are to contact Mr Cockcroft directly at ncockcroft@bishopshalt.school to discuss.

We appreciate that these are very challenging times but urge you to keep the 3 key points mentioned in mind and do your very best to maintain your focus and effort during the coming weeks and months. You may well feel disheartened and challenged by the recent change in circumstances but may I remind you of the school values that we instil and this very much relates to the notion of building character. You will come through this and continue to be strong valuable members of your community learning from your personal experiences.



An Arts College specialising in Music and the Performing Arts Royal Lane, Hillingdon, Uxbridge, UB8 3RF

Headteacher: Mr L McGillicuddy

The staff at Bishopshalt are here to support you along the way and we will keep you informed of any updates as and when we receive them. Please may I ask that if you do have any concerns or questions that you contact your Head of Year directly who will be more than happy to assist you in any way they can.

Please remember to follow the government advice during the National Lockdown and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr Cockcroft
Deputy Head

Miss Duff
Deputy Head

Mrs Briggs
Head of Year 11

Mr Singleton
Head of Year 12

Mr Black
Head of Year 13