

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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4th January 2021

Government Covid Update 04.01.21

Dear staff, students, parents and carers,

I am sure like my team and I you are digesting the news from the government this evening announcing a new national lockdown.

We will await the details and then plan, respond and deliver as we did in 2020. This immediate message is simply to reassure you all that we will do all that we can to maintain high quality education for all of our students, whilst ensuring we keep all of our community as safe as possible.

For now, I can confirm the following:

- Onsite provision for vulnerable students and children of critical workers will continue as planned. Updated details for this provision will be issued tomorrow.
- Remote learning, in its current format, will continue for all other students until further notice.
- All that we know at this moment is that exams will not take place in their current format. What this means for the next few weeks or the summer, we are not sure. However, we will update as soon as we have further details. In the meantime, sit tight.
- Remote learning for all students expecting exams will continue. We have a long established record of being able to evidence a students' ability and potential and we were able to use this in 2020 to ensure our students received the grades they deserved.
- This news will be unsettling and disappointing for our students. We are committed to ensuring our students remain well motivated, positive and well supported by their school. We will not waiver from this aim and we will be in touch to check our students are safe and well on a regular basis.
- It is crucial that students maintain safe behaviours and practices in and out of school. Hands, face and space are the basics and should be adhered to at all times. Limiting the spread of the virus is all of our responsibility and we must all follow the new government guidelines.
- Our mass testing plans will be paused until we know more about how this should work in the new lockdown.

I am meeting with my team tomorrow, we will have lots to discuss and we will be in touch as soon as we can. If you have immediate concerns and/or questions please direct these to your child's form tutor and we will try to respond as quickly as we can.

We have overcome a multitude of challenges already. I know we can do the same again. Please stay positive, influence what you can control and try not to worry about what you cannot. Support each other, stay safe and keep well.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher