

19 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 pupils,

You will be very aware now of the Government decision to close all schools from Friday and to cancel GCSE's this year. As a school, like yourselves, we are devastated by the decision the Government have had to take.

I hope however that you can appreciate that we are taking these actions to safeguard as many of our students as possible.

I have made it clear to Year 11's today in assembly that we will make sure we will look after them and ensure that they all have the opportunity to go to college or take on an apprenticeship as they were planning to do.

The Government and examining bodies are still deciding what criteria they will use, but our best guess is that they will use the school predicted grades and a combination of mock data. To ensure these are accurate these grades are based on a number of factors, which is listed as follows:

- Progress since Year 10
- Assessment & Mock result throughout KS4
- Standard of classwork and effort in class.

I can give you that as my assurance, and I hope that it will relieve some of the anxiety that you as a parent or carer are currently experiencing, along with your child.

With that in mind, we have taken the decision that Year 11's last day at school will be today, Thursday 19th March and we will have a leaver's assembly this afternoon for them.

As part of this process they will be bringing home their school books, returning school library books and clearing their lockers, as they would under normal leaving procedures.

When we have gained stability and large gathering are permissible we will have a Year 11 Prom, this is my promise to them and it is important we celebrate what a fantastic Year group they are.

They have been outstanding ambassadors for the school, I and the Staff at Worthing High School are incredibly proud of them and how they have grown into fine young men and women. We congratulate them on how they have conducted themselves throughout their time with us.

A separate communication will go out for parents of pupils in Year 7 through to Year 10 which will outline the school plans for supporting vulnerable students, pupils with an EHCP and pupils who have a parent who is a key worker.

I appreciate that this is a very difficult time for all of us, if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Our school will close from Friday, but we will always have a special place in our hearts for our class of 2020.

Yours faithfully



Pan Panayiotou
HEADTEACHER