

Hayle Academy

25th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the Government's recent announcement that Year 11 students will sit exams in the summer term, I am contacting you with some early confirmation of the timing of the exams. There will be one maths and one English GCSE exam before the May half term break (31st May – 4th June). This is to ensure that as many students as possible sit at least one exam in each of these subjects despite possible ongoing disruption to schools. The main series of GCSE exams will be from 7th June until 2nd July, delaying the usual start of the exams by around 3 weeks to provide some additional teaching time. Results day for GCSE students has been confirmed as Friday 27th August, slightly later than usual but in time for students to be able to begin their post 16 studies in September.

The Government has also promised further details about the modified exam systems later this term, including the measures that will be put in place to protect students in the event of further disruption to education. Whilst we welcome the 3 week delay to provide more teaching and preparation time, we know parents will be more worried than usual about potential periods of absence from school. Please be assured we have robust contingency plans in place for online teaching and continue to develop our remote learning platform to minimise any potential disruption to our students' learning. Our pastoral support team are also available to support students who are worried and we have adapted our tutorial programmes to ensure tutors can reassure students and provide helpful revision and wellbeing strategies over coming months. Staff are working to reassure our students on a daily basis and we are taking a very balanced approach to preparing them for their GCSE's. Whilst the 'every lesson counts' message is vital, we are also ensuring that students know what support is available and who to ask for help if they need it.

We will keep Year 11 families fully updated with any further information we are provided with regarding the GCSE exams. For now, please ensure these exam weeks are kept clear in your family calendar and don't hesitate to contact our exams officer, Miss Daddow, if you have any questions or would like further advice.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S Horner
Head of School

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