



The Matthew Arnold School

Part of the Bourne Education Trust



14th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 11 Update - Exams Latest and Virtual Parents' Evening - Thursday 28th January

You may be aware that Gavin Williamson, Secretary of State for Education, has begun his consultation with Ofqual about how students will be assessed this year, and that he mentioned 'mini-exams' to aid grading. This is not helping to set people's minds at rest - Boris Johnson says exams are cancelled, Gavin Williamson suggests they may be back on.

I know no more than you do, but I think we are all used to U-turns, and I am sure we haven't seen the last of them. Please try not to worry, but instead help to focus your child's mind on what is important - attendance to online lessons and a good focus both in lesson and with assignments. What we cannot afford to do is to put life on pause while we wait to see what transpires.

To that end, we would like to warmly invite you all to the Year 11 Virtual Parents' Evening on Thursday 28th January. The evening will run from 3.00-7.30pm, using SchoolCloud as the platform. The evening gives you and your child the opportunity to receive vital feedback on their performance in lessons, their mock grade, and what they need to do to further improve to ensure they receive the best grade possible in the summer.

We also want to use the evening to help spread a positive ethos; to remind students how well they have done to get this far, and reassure them that the provision we are offering puts them in the best possible position for success.

To ensure the evening runs efficiently, you will have a timed 5-minute appointment to discuss the information above with each of your child's subject teachers. Kirsteen Moore and Rob Lawrence will both have appointments available as will Caroline Pugh, Assistant to the SENDCo.

You will shortly receive an email detailing how to book your appointments. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor or Mrs Moore.

Yours sincerely

Mary Gould
Headteacher

Kirsteen Moore
Head of Year 11

Rob Lawrence
Assistant Headteacher

