

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 11 and Year 13,

Yesterday, the government announced that Year 11 and Year 13 students will not sit exams this year. I wanted to update you on what this means for you child and also confirm the arrangements for your **child's parent meeting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March** which will now take place on the phone.

### **Year 11 and Year 13 Examinations**

For Year 11 and Year 13 students, GCSE, A Level and BTEC exams will not take place this year. Instead, the Government has assured us that students will receive **recognition for all of their work** and receive the qualifications they need to progress onto the next stage of their lives. The Government have also assured us that this will be a **fair** process. The government has said they will publish more information on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March about how this works, but it is likely that it will involve teacher assessment, previous assessments and, where relevant, coursework.

### **What does this mean for my child?**

We will await further information but it is important to emphasise to children that the new system for awarding qualifications will take into account their hard work up to this point and also in the remainder of their study up to when the exams would have taken place. **It is vital that students continue to learn.** It is likely that their teachers will be involved in the awarding of grades, and so it is important that students work with their teachers to show they are learning in the weeks ahead.

We do not learn our subjects simply to achieve grades, but because there is value in learning in itself and because the knowledge and skills we learn are vital to our success in the next stage of our lives. We want our pupils to thrive at 6<sup>th</sup> form, university and beyond and this will only be possible if they work hard now.

So, we will keep teaching Y11 and Y13, they will keep learning. They will still get the rewards for their hard work. I appreciate this will be an emotional time, but we will support your children and ensure they are treated fairly.

### **Parent Meeting**

To support this, we will be running the parent meeting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Many of you have already booked a slot using the online booking system (<https://kingsolomonacademy.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>), if you have not, please do so now. At the agreed time, please make **sure you and your child** are in the same place and able to have a focused conversation with your teacher. We will phone the number we have on the system for you, but if you would like us to phone a different number, please email [parents@kingsolomonacademy.org](mailto:parents@kingsolomonacademy.org).

### **The days ahead**

A reminder that we will be open tomorrow, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. This will be the last time for most pupils to see each other and their teachers, so it would benefit them if they are able to.

From Monday, we will switch to remote learning, where pupils will learn and be assessed online. Full details of this will be available in the email being sent to all Secondary pupils today.

Best wishes,

Max Haimendorf  
Principal