



MOORSIDE HIGH

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Dear Parent/Carer

We are very much looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday at our online Parents' Evening.

We would also like to take this opportunity to update you on the present situation regarding the awarding of GCSE and Vocational qualification grades before Tuesday. Whilst the Department for Education have announced that there will be no exams this summer they have not released any information about what will replace them. There is a general feeling that there will be some form of assessment rather than simply centre assessed grading. However, until we have a formal announcement it is not useful to speculate further.

There has, however, been a further release informing us that written exams scheduled for February and March will now no longer go ahead. This means that our students will not be sitting the BTEC Health and Social Care and BTEC Travel and Tourism exams in February.

The best advice we can give you at this stage is that your child needs to keep working as hard as they can. If, as we suspect, there is to be some form of formal assessment as part of the process this year they will need to prepare as thoroughly as they can and behave as if examinations were taking place. We have been very impressed by the way in which most of the students have transitioned to the online learning. It is vital that they upload pieces of work to TEAMS as directed by their teachers, complete any online quizzes e.g. Hegarty Maths and keep the rest of their work to bring in to school once we return. This will form part of our evidence when determining teacher assessments in each subject.

We will, of course, keep you posted on any developments about the method of awarding grades as and when we get a greater sense of what is planned.

In light of this, please could we ask that at Parents' Evening you concentrate on questions that teachers will be able to answer on your child's progress; how they did in the mock exam; what they need to focus on this term to make further progress etc. Teachers will not be able to answer questions on how grades will be awarded in the summer because we just do not know at this stage.

Thank you in advance for your support and understanding around the evening.

As we are sure you appreciate, with any technology, there is always the risk that something may go wrong. We are hoping that this will not be the case, but should something go wrong, please do not worry, if you contact your child's Head of Year, Mrs Copestake, we will follow up the evening with a phone call later in the week.

Please visit the school website to access links to view some helpful guides on 'How to join a video meeting'.

You will also find our acceptable use policy on the school website, but please can we take this opportunity to remind you of the following:

All participants are expected to behave in line with existing Moorside High School policies and expectations. This includes:

- Appropriate language and professional conduct at all times.
- Staff/parents/carers are not permitted to record or take images from consultation appointments under any circumstance.
- Only members of Moorside High School community are to have access to School Cloud - Parents Evening.
- When sharing screens and conducting remote consultations, participants are required to:
 - Wear appropriate dress.
 - Ensure where possible, backgrounds of videos are neutral (blurred if possible).
 - Ensure that personal information and/or unsuitable personal items are not visible, either on screen or in video backgrounds.

We have every confidence it will be a productive evening, that will hopefully provide you with some detailed information on how your child is working, and what they need to do to continue to progress in Year 11 at Moorside High School.

Yours faithfully

Mrs H E Ryles-Dean
Deputy Headteacher

Miss Smalley
Deputy Headteacher