



24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Year 11

I hope this message finds you well.

This is quite a long message but packs in lots of information and guidance that will be useful over the next few months. Hopefully it answers some questions you might have.

- Schools have now been advised that given how grades will be calculated for young people in the summer to no longer set work towards GCSE qualifications, including any incomplete coursework. This means that from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April your teachers will no longer be setting any additional work for you.
  - With this in mind we now want to focus on making sure that you can use the next few months to prepare for whatever the next steps in your journey will be, A Levels, college courses or an apprenticeship.
  - You hopefully will have recently received an email or a message from your Mentor through Microsoft Teams asking you to confirm what your plans for your next steps are. If you've not already done so, please reply to this as it will help us support you as best we can between now and September.
  - Below is some guidance and support on the following:
    1. What you should be doing over the next few weeks depending on your chosen destination after Year 11
    2. Resources that will help you continue to develop your skills and character ready for returning to education or training
    3. Suggestions for those students who think they're likely to be resitting English and Maths to achieve a Grade 4
1. There will be a range of support available from the school that I'd encourage you to make the best use of; the more you can stay focused and motivated now the easier the transition to whatever comes next for you will be.
- Students joining the **Garibaldi Sixth Form** will have induction work for the subjects they've opted for. This work will build on what has been learned at GCSE level or will give an introduction to new subjects. This work will be used in lessons in September. If you've applied to 6<sup>th</sup> Form you'll be receiving some emails next week with this work attached for the subjects you'd opted for on the application and confirmed at interview. Please look out for these and let me know if you don't receive them.
  - Students who've applied to college, most likely **West Notts**, should check their website(s) for information. You will have received some information already via email about how West Notts is allocating places and what their position on entry requirements is. Attached are some online activities that they've suggested for students who are joining them in September. Click on the blue

hyperlinks on the document to get to the activities. An updated version will be shared in coming weeks.

- Students who had **secured an apprenticeship** should contact the employer to check what their arrangements are for starting the apprenticeship. Given the situation it may not be possible to start the work element of this. If there was a college based course (usually West Notts) you should check that this is due to start in September.
- We've asked for information on how students can prepare for upcoming college courses and will share details of this when we have it. Knowing what courses you have applied for will help us to direct you to the most appropriate resources.
- If you're still without firm plans for next year I'd encourage you to look into this with a sense of urgency. If you need help or support with this let me or your mentor know.

2. In addition the following resources are available and will be of use to all students regardless of their next steps:

- **Unifrog** is a website relating to careers and further and higher education. You will all have previously registered. However if you're unable to log in please get in touch with Miss Bleasdale [ABleasdale@garibaldischool.co.uk](mailto:ABleasdale@garibaldischool.co.uk) or Miss Smedley [GSmedley@garibaldischool.co.uk](mailto:GSmedley@garibaldischool.co.uk) who can help work out your log in details. <https://www.unifrog.org/>. Some specific tasks relating to Unifrog resources will come through to you on Teams in the coming days via your mentors. These will be useful to support your personal development.
- **Barclays Life Skills** is an on line resource which is free to sign up for <https://barclayslifeskills.com/young-people/> and has a range of activities that support skills development, preparation for interview and some careers guidance. A Student guidance sheet to help you get logged on is attached.

3. If you think it's likely that you'll need to continue to work towards a Grade 4 in English and/or Maths when you move on in September the following resources will help you to further develop your knowledge and understanding. You'll get a chance to resit English and Maths in November (all being well) regardless of what the Government puts in place because of Covid-19. Getting up to Grade 4 first time on a resit will help ensure you can dedicate your time to your other studies.

- BBC Bitesize AQA English Language resources <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zcbchv4>
- BBC Bitesize AQA Maths resources <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8sg6fr>
- BBC Teach – Online English Language GCSE lessons <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/gcse-national-5-english-language/z69skmn>
- BBC Teach – Online Maths GCSE lessons <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/gcse-national-5-maths/zjy96v4>
- BBC Bitesize Daily <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zn9447h>. This starts from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April and will include daily lessons in English and Maths linked to the BBC iplayer and other BBC content.
- You can also continue to use Seneca to test yourself and plug gaps in your knowledge and understanding

Remember that your mentor and teachers are still available for support and guidance if you need it. There are a number of ways to contact them via email (all staff emails can be found here <https://garibaldi.org.uk/page.php?p=staff> ) through Microsoft Teams or if necessary through a phone message to the school reception that is manned from 8.30 – 3.00pm each week day.

Please get in touch if you have any questions or are unclear about any of the points above but please do make the most the opportunities this advice and support offers.

Take care and best wishes

Mr Dawson

**Martin Dawson**  
Deputy Head of School