



8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you in response to the statement made by the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, who confirmed that both GCSE Level and A Level examinations scheduled for the summer term are now cancelled. Instead, students will now be awarded a final grade for each of their GCSE and A Level qualifications via teacher assessment.

I would like to re-assure you that once we have a more definitive understanding of what this actually means for staff, students and families, I will provide you with a further update as soon as I am able to.

Despite the Secretary of State's announcement, please remember that provision remains in place that enables students to complete their programme of study to the highest standards possible. Therefore, I would ask that you remind your child to remain connected and committed to their online provision and take every opportunity available to them to demonstrate their specialist knowledge and understanding through the completion of set assignments which could make a strong and lasting contribution to the internal assessment process that may form part of the teacher assessment process during the course of the academic year.

Our internal assessment processes, once clarified, will be fair, transparent and communicated regularly to students and families and will ensure that there is a very clear understanding of how grades will be awarded and more importantly, what types assessments will be used to help inform the final grade that is awarded.

We will of course, work tirelessly to ensure that every student is afforded every opportunity through the remainder of their programmes of study to secure the very best grades possible and support the successful transition to next stage of their educational pathway or route into employment.

We do recognise however that these are anxious times for all of our students and we will continue to provide the care, guidance and support that ensures students receive the high level pastoral support at a time which will undoubtedly be an anxious moment in their school career.

I will be making contact with all students in Year 11 and 13 over the coming days to provide additional advice, guidance and support as well as clarify how the rest of the academic year will look and how we will work tirelessly to ensure that every student secures the success that their hard work and commitment so richly deserves.

The Garibaldi School | Garibaldi Road, Forest Town, Mansfield, Nottingham NG19 0JX  
Telephone: 01623 464220 | Email: [office@garibaldischool.co.uk](mailto:office@garibaldischool.co.uk) | Website: [www.garibaldischool.co.uk](http://www.garibaldischool.co.uk)  
Executive Head Teacher: **Ryan Hawley** BSc (Hons), QTS, NPQH | Head of School: **James Aldred** BA, QTS, NPQH

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On a final note, from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021, Year 11 students will finish their day of study at 3pm. The period seven session, whilst learning remotely will cease and work from these sessions will be incorporated into the remainder of the timetable.

Thank you as always for your continued support and please do stay safe.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Aldred', written over a horizontal line.

Mr J Aldred  
Head of School