



Dear Parent

### Year 11 – 2020-2021

I want to start by saying what a pleasure it is to have our students back in school. Our young people have shown a real resilience and commitment to work with us through these unprecedented times and have demonstrated a good understanding of the challenges that it has presented us all with.

This year is very different to the start of any previous academic year for year 11 students. You will be aware that the summer 2020 exam series was cancelled following school closure in March. We very much hope that schools will remain open for the whole of this academic year and that the exams your child is due to sit in the summer of 2021 will go ahead as planned, however, we have to prepare ourselves and our students for a range of possibilities given the current circumstances.

When we closed the school in March, we were asked to submit grades for each student in every subject. These grades were put through rigorous checking processes to ensure that we were able to provide evidence for every single qualification should we be required to do so. I am very proud of the work that staff did here to ensure that students were awarded the grades that they deserved and were able to move on to the next stage in their education. Our students achieved what they should have achieved, based on the work they had completed and the progress that they were making.

Whilst we are planning and teaching towards a full summer exam series for your child, we also need to prepare for any changes to this that could arise as a result of DFE and Ofqual announcements. This week the leadership team is speaking to all students about working hard and making the most of all learning opportunities in preparation for summer exams but also for the possibility that the exam series could be different again. It is vitally important that students realise that all the work they have done and are currently doing including class work and homework as well as assessments and mock exams, could contribute towards the evidence we hold for calculating their Centre Assessed Grades if required to do so. Our message is simply this ***'work really hard every day, you are in the same position as every other Year 11 student across the county and we want you to achieve the best you are capable of regardless of what the next few months hold'***.

The presentation we shared with year 11 students this week is available for download on website under Parents / Letters. I would be very grateful if you could talk to your child about the importance of this message and support them in ensuring that they apply themselves fully to every task they are set this year in order to ensure that we have the best evidence possible of their work and that they are as prepared as possible to sit their exams.

To support students further in raising their achievement, students will be given additional support through period 6 and period 0 lessons in line with their individual learning needs. Heads of Department will review these sessions on a regular basis and will keep you and your child informed of any timetable changes that affect them.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on [j.mora@theacademycarlton.org](mailto:j.mora@theacademycarlton.org) or their form tutor at any point during the year, if you would like to talk about this or any part of your child's achievement.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Mora  
Assistant Head



