

8 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope that everybody at home is staying safe and well. Our thoughts are with all those in our school community who have been recently affected by Covid-19.

Well done to all our students working hard at home. We are extremely pleased with those who are accessing the work daily through Google Classroom.

For those students not engaging with the work, our Progress Leaders are in the process of contacting home. Please continue to encourage your child to access the distance learning work provided. More details can be found on our [website](#).

### **Distance Learning Update**

You may have picked up from the news this morning that Welsh Government has released a statement with the following comment related to schools:

*"... unless there is a significant reduction in cases of coronavirus before 29 January – the date of the next three-week review of the regulations – school and college students will continue to learn **online** until the **February half term**."*

Therefore, we will continue to provide distance learning until at least **Friday 29th January** with a further extension possible until the end of term which is **Friday 12th February**.

### **Exams Update**

We have received news this morning of further changes to the **assessment process to replace exams** which was recently implemented by Qualifications Wales. They have announced the **cancellation** of the **spring internal assessment** window (due between 22nd February and 23rd April) for GCSE, AS and A levels. Revised assessment arrangements for the award of these qualifications in summer 2021 will be put in place shortly. We will update you as soon as we know more.

## Videos from Progress Leaders

Progress Leaders have put together these videos: one for KS3 and one for KS4. They provide some very helpful advice and tips for learners on how to learn from home and for parents/carers on how to support your child. Please take some time to watch the relevant video and ensure your child watches it too.

[Key Stage 3 Video](#)

[Key Stage 4 Video](#)

## Positive Covid-19 Test Results

We are still expected to monitor positive cases of Covid-19 amongst our school community.

If your child receives a positive test result, please email and send a screenshot to [covid19@stjuliansschool.co.uk](mailto:covid19@stjuliansschool.co.uk).

## Y9 Pathways

I hope our Year 9 parents and carers found our Tutor Evening yesterday useful. Whilst we know not being able to have a traditional Progress Evening is frustrating, being able to discuss your child's academic progress and wellbeing with their tutor via telephone is very beneficial.

**Year 9 Pathways** will now be an **online process** this half term. This is where our Year 9 students opt for the GCSE and BTEC courses they wish to study in Key Stage 4. Miss Hook, Deputy Headteacher, will be writing home to all parents and carers next week with details about this online event. If you have any questions or queries in the meantime, please do contact your child's tutor.

## And finally ...

We have reached the end of what should have been just a week of distance learning but as the week has progressed, it has transpired that we will be in this position for a much longer period of time. We all need to ensure that our students are able to make the most out of this difficult situation; it is so important that they engage with distance learning. We are here to support you and your child. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's progress leader or another member of staff in school if you need any further advice.

Stay safe.

Yours faithfully



Mr. D. Curtis  
Headteacher/Pennaeth