



# KING JAMES'S SCHOOL

## KNARESBOROUGH

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sorry we are having to email you so much at the moment but, by the same token, there have been many messages from parents thanking us for our effective communication. This is my second email today about the cancelling of the summer exams at GCSE and A Level.

We have discussed in some depth today what advice to give to teachers, and to Year 11 and Year 13, about whether to continue doing school work.

As we communicated earlier today, the most recent guidance from the DfE makes it clear that there will be no summer examinations in any subjects this year. Understandably, this may leave students feeling that it is 'pointless' to continue with their GCSE or A Level studies. However, although students will not be sitting the summer exams this does not mean that the knowledge and skills they would have been tested on are not important. In fact **for many students these skills and knowledge are invaluable to their personal development and vital to the success of their next steps in Sixth Form, College, University or Employment.**

In addition, the DfE have discussed **the possibility of students being offered the opportunity to take assessments in the future** which is another good reason for them to continue studying until further details about that process are released.

Finally, as we have no firm idea of how long the current restrictions will be lasting we strongly recommend that students maintain good study habits, including self-motivation and the ability develop good independent study skills. If they simply stop working now they will inevitably find it very difficult to start again when they start Sixth Form, College or University in the future.

For this reason **it is our firm recommendation that Year 11 and Year 13 students should continue to follow the instructions of teachers on our online learning platform.**

Yours sincerely,

Mr CA Sugden  
**Headteacher**