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Headmaster: Mr Alan Whelpdale BA, PGCE, NPQH

23 March 2020

Dear Parents

Re: Year 13 and A Level Grades

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that your daughters have behaved impeccably throughout the last few difficult days. These are uncertain and unclear times, especially regarding GCSE and A Level examinations.

All schools are awaiting information and instructions from the Department of Education. At the moment, there is little new information I can share with you; it remains that the Government has decided that there will be no Summer Term public examinations.

We have been told by the Prime Minister that all Year 13 students will be given their A Level grades by the end of July 2020. Discussion is emerging which suggests that A Level grades will be based on subject teacher recommendations and predictions, and all such teacher expectations will have to be evidence led.

Please allow me to assure both students and parents that our teachers know your daughters very well indeed. The Mock examination result is but one piece of evidence and we know this grade will largely be out-of-date. All my staff understand that our students almost always exceed the results they achieved in January. I am proud to say that the teachers at LHS will be meticulously fair and act with integrity when making predictions, if, indeed, this is what the Government ask of them.

In light of the most recent announcements, I have now advised the staff to cease setting online work for Year 13 students. Their time can be used more productively in collating evidence to underpin the predictions that they will most probably be asked to provide. I also believe the girls will benefit from a well-deserved rest.

After the scheduled Easter holidays, staff may ask their A Level students to complete a particular assessment if they require more evidence. Your daughters should log in to Show My Homework regularly just in case.

Please may I remind parents, that under very difficult and ever-changing circumstances, my staff continue to work hard for our students. As we move forward the remote learning will evolve, and the nature of the work will change also.

The LHS community is a family. It is vital that School and home work together to ensure our students get the very best GCSE grades, which reflect their commitment and continued hard work throughout the two-year course. I will be supporting my staff in their deliberations and evidence gathering over the next few weeks.

If any student, or parents, would like to talk to Miss Purewal, Head of Sixth Form, please email her and she will reply in a timely manner.

As we receive more information, I will, of course, keep you fully informed.



With every good wish,

Alan Whelpdale

Alan Whelpdale
Headmaster

[Rated 'Excellent' in the most recent ISI Inspection](#)

