



Seaham High School – Statement to Students, Parents and Carers of Year Eleven

On Monday 4th January 2020, the Prime Minister announced a further national lockdown as part of the continued efforts to tackle the Coronavirus pandemic. As part of this announcement, Boris Johnson announced the partial closure of schools and the cancellation of **SOME** exams for the current year eleven cohort.

At the time of writing this statement, we have not been issued with any specific details or guidance around how qualifications will be accredited in 2021. We must however make students, parents and carers aware that the Department of Education are still suggesting that some exams **WILL** go ahead. Whilst we are unclear what they will look like, please be assured that our staff are working hard to bring you clarity on this. Mr Parker will be writing to students and parents to update you when we receive new information.

As a school we will await further guidance from Ofqual and the awarding bodies before making any changes to our provision for year eleven. We will continue to require all students to engage in the virtual lessons and registers will be taken on a lesson by lesson basis to record attendance and levels of engagement in the home-learning process. It is essential that students, parents and carers understand the potential implication of non-engagement in this process. If the school is required to award grades in the same way as was seen in 2020, using a Centre Assessed Grade (CAG), then we will review levels of engagement as part of the process whereby a CAG is decided. Please contact Mr Green (GRA@seahamhighschool.com) to make him aware of any barriers to engagement in virtual learning. It is essential to stress that whilst the school building will be closed to most students, our education provision will continue by moving online and we expect the same standards as would be seen in school.

We would like to take this opportunity to reassure students that we will do all we can to ensure that nobody is disadvantaged when it comes to accreditations. As a school we hold a large amount of data on students, however, more importantly than this, we know our students. We know what they are capable of achieving, how hard they work and how difficult this time will be for many of them. We will therefore do all that we can to ensure that every student achieves the grades that reflect what they are capable of achieving and what they deserve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Lumsdon', written in a cursive style.

Mr G. Lumsdon
Head Teacher