



Ark John Keats Academy

1st June 2020

Dear parents,

We are incredibly proud of the effort that your child and Year 11 have put in over the last 5 years. They have worked incredibly hard, really developed their character and have much to be proud of. Had we been in a normal year your child would have been over halfway through their GCSE exams and gearing up to revise even harder over the May half term for the last two weeks of their exams. Although pupils will now not get the chance to sit these exams, they will instead getting Centre Assessed Grades that have been carefully and fairly thought out by the school to predict what we think your child would have got had they sat these exams. These GCSE grades will be shared on 20th August.

As we reach the end of this period we can now begin to focus on the next phase of your child's development and ensure they are prepared for all these important next steps. Below is some key information for Year 11 pupils and their parents.

Destinations – Ms Worth has shared an online survey for all pupils so the school can understand and support your child's post 16 choices. If you haven't done so already, please complete this as soon as possible. The link is [here](#).

Work Experience – this would have been an important part of your child's preparations this summer. For obvious reasons this is now impossible to carry out as we planned for health and safety reasons. Instead Ms Fasulo is designing an online work experience which will give pupils a great grasp of what industry they may want to work on and some of the rewards and challenges of these specific careers. More information will be shared at the start of next term, but all Year 11 pupils will be taking part in this process in the second week of next half term.

Leaver's Assembly – we would normally hold a Leaver's Assembly on the last day of the GCSE exams (Friday 12th June). Though we cannot hold this on site we will be producing a remote assembly to celebrate all this year group's fantastic achievements and characters. Pupils will be able to contribute to this by sending in their thoughts and messages to their tutor and we will share this assembly with all pupils and tutors on the 12th June.

Pupil work – Our Heads of Departments and Key Stage 5 teachers are working incredibly hard to improve the transition work that all pupils will need to complete in preparation for post 16 study. This will be shared on our school website at the start of next term and we will send you through notification of this and how to access it. Our tutors will make sure in the first week that all pupils returning to John Keats have engaged with this and know where to find it. For those who are going to other sixth forms of colleges your tutor will ensure you have got in contact with them and have the required work to prepare yourself fully for starting Year 12 in September. We have also gathered some resources to support pupils studying elsewhere to ensure they are ready to be successful when we return to school.

Pastoral contact – After Friday 12th June your tutor will only contact you and your child if they have not confirmed their post 16 choices or if they need further support and guidance to prepare for next year. We would expect that as pupils begin preparing for post 16 education, they will be emailing their sixth form teachers/colleges around their work as opposed to their tutors. You can still email and contact your child's tutor if you have any questions and it is important you know we will continue to support you in any way we can.

Executive Principal: Jane Witheford
Secondary Headteacher: William Mackintosh
Primary Headteacher: Amy Baird

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Community classrooms – unfortunately we will not be able to offer any spaces for Year 11 in our community classrooms after Friday 12th June as this is the normal date for Year 11 finishing school with us. There will be no Year 11 pupils on site after this date.

Uniform – We ask that all families keep their Ark John Keats uniform where it is not being handed down to younger siblings. When it is safe, we will arrange a system for this to be dropped off in school, where we will have it cleaned, and added to our spare uniform collection. This is supportive for the whole community and very much appreciated.

If you have any questions about any of the points above, please do not hesitate to email me at s.mullarkey@arkjohnkeatsacademy.org.

Your sincerely

Sean Mullarkey
Vice Principal

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