



RUSHEY MEAD ACADEMY

Rushey Mead Academy

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Executive Principal: Ms R Hindocha

Principal: Mrs G Kader

Dear Parents/ carers

Home learning and GCSE years

At Rushey Mead Academy all our available home learning resources for students to use during this school closure, will be uploaded onto ShowMyHomework on a regular basis for all year groups. Please encourage your son/daughter to check and undertake as much work set as is possible.

Many of you, understandably, have been concerned and shocked by the announcement regarding the cancellation of GCSE exam. This I know has been very disappointing to our Year 11 students as they have been working hard and preparing for their GCSEs. We have now had further clarification from the Department of Education which can be found at this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced>

The headline messages are as follows:

- This year's summer exam series has been cancelled.
- The exam boards will be asking teachers, who know their students well, to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead.
- To produce this, teachers will take into account a range of evidence and data including performance on mock exams and non-exam assessment – clear guidance on how to do this fairly and robustly will be provided to schools and colleges. This information will be used to produce a calculated grade for each student. They have promised that this will be as fair as possible.
- Year 11 students will be awarded their calculated grade for their GCSEs before the end of July.
- The students will have the option to take an exam later on in 2020 or Summer 2021 if they feel that the calculated grade is not a true reflection of what they had hoped to achieve in their exam.
- The Government is making it a priority to ensure that affected students can move on to the next stage of their lives.

Please be assured that our staff at Rushey Mead are fully committed to ensuring that your children get the recognition and qualifications that they absolutely deserve and we promise to work closely with all authorities to ensure that the calculations are fair and reflect our student's hard work. **In the meantime, we would urge all year 11s not to throw away their books, folders and assessments until we receive their results in July.**

In addition to this, in many ways for Year 11 students it would be particularly sensible if students focused their learning on subjects they intend to pursue for further studies. For example if a student hopes to study English, Biology and History at A Level, then perhaps they should consider developing their knowledge in these subjects.

With Year 10 students they should concentrate on their full range of GCSE studies in order to be best prepared for their exam studies next year. Work for them has been set up on ShowMyHomework and they have had an assembly about our expectations.

With Years 7, 8 and 9 students a good mix of studies in the full range of subjects they currently study is most sensible and is also accessible through ShowMyHomework. Your support in this matter is much appreciated and your positive encouragement for them to learn independently.

We are aware that not all students have access to an electronic device and therefore staff have also prepared paper based resources which have been given to the students already. Students will have enough work on a daily basis and are expected to follow their normal timetable and complete all set tasks. They should stay at home during school hours in order to continue their learning and ensure that they do not fall behind.

The information we are receiving from the Government is changing on a daily basis, so we will do our best to keep you updated as and when we receive it.

We would like to thank you for your support and understanding through what is proving to be a challenging time for all of us. We understand that many of you will be anxious and concerned about the next few months, but rest assured, we are doing everything we can to support your children through this time.

New information is being released daily. We will continue to take advice and guidance from Public Health England and the Department for Education. We will be updating our website and social media sites as and when updates are available. As a reminder, our Facebook handle is @RusheyMeadTMET and our Twitter handle is @RusheyMeadAcad. The Trust's Facebook is @TheMeadEducationalTrust and Twitter is @TMETrust.

Once again, thank you for your continued support during this unprecedented time.

Yours sincerely,

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

Mrs G Kader
Principal
Rushey Mead Academy

