



Diocese of St. Albans



13 October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope this letter finds you all well.

Summer 2021 Examination Series for Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students

Yesterday (12 October 2020) we had confirmation that GCSE, AS and A-level exams will go ahead next summer, and teachers and students will be given more time to prepare for them, to help make up for the disruption caused by the pandemic.

The following was announced:

- Most exams will take place three weeks later than usual. The summer exam series will **start on 7 June and end on 2 July for almost all AS and A-levels and GCSEs.**
- However, **one GCSE English** and **one GCSE maths** paper will **be scheduled before the summer half term**, to give students affected by Covid the best chance of being able to sit at least one paper in these two qualifications.
- Some exams for AS and A-level qualifications which typically have low entry numbers will be scheduled before the half term break too.
- There will also be adjustments to the timetable for Vocational and Technical Qualifications (I will keep you informed of any information around these qualifications, including BTECs, when we get it).
- Results days will be a little later than usual:
 - Tuesday 24 August for AS and A-levels
 - Friday 27 August for GCSEs.

Please check these dates carefully, add them to your family calendar and do not arrange any holiday that would take your son/daughter out of school during the exam dates.

May Half Term is from Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June, so the students will be expected to be in school and attending lessons until Friday 28 May, and at a later stage we will look at suitable dates for their final Act of Collective Worship, where we celebrate their time with us.

We will be enrolling students in to our Sixth form as usual and entry to qualifications is entirely dependent on the results from GCSEs and BTECs in the Summer 2021 Exams. Information about the enrolment process, including entry requirements, will be coming to you over the next few weeks.

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

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Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

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The Sixth Form information evening will be a face-to-face event and will take place on Wednesday 18 November 2020 from 3.30 – 5.30pm for students only, with the website updated to support information for parents and external applicants.

Please note, our Sixth form is heavily subscribed and students sending in their applications after the deadline risk not getting a place on a course they want if it has been filled by students who already applied. Remember, Ofsted in 2019 said that the Sixth form is **“GOOD”**, and in the summer this year, every student who wanted a place at university achieved one, including two students to Cambridge.

If you have any queries about the exams, please contact Ms Pamphlett on val.pamphlett@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk

If you have any queries about Sixth Form enrolment, please contact Mrs Mathews on georgette.mathews@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully



Nicholas Simms
Headteacher

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