

4 May 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

RE: Year 11 End of School Arrangements

I trust that this letter finds you and your family safe and well.

Following on from updated guidance from the Government as detailed in the 'Schools coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance', I wanted to take this opportunity to set out for you our plans regarding the end of year arrangements for students in Year 11.

As you will be aware, students have recently completed the first week of Unseen Assessments as part of the Teacher Assessment Grade process this year. I have been immensely impressed with the way in which students have applied themselves so far and I am confident that this will continue over the course of the next few weeks, as we work to finalise the Teacher Assessment Grade process by Friday, 18 June 2021.

The legislation which governs compulsory school age details that students will cease to be of compulsory school age on the last Friday of June in the year in which they turn 16. Given that the Teacher Assessment Grade process will conclude on Friday, 18 June 2021, we have taken the decision that all students in Year 11 will be required to remain in attendance and therefore, in education at the academy until **Thursday, 17 June 2021**. On Friday, 18 June 2021, we will invite students to attend a celebration event to mark the end of their compulsory education with us at The Farnley Academy.

Following the conclusion of our Unseen Assessments, students will continue to attend school in line with their normal school timetable. This will allow teaching colleagues to prepare and deliver a range of exciting and innovative lessons to ensure that students are fully prepared for the next stage in their education, employment or training. Moreover, we will be able to ensure that parts of the curriculum that have not been fully covered before the Teacher Assessed Grade process commenced can be covered in greater depth, this applies to both GCSE and Vocational Technical Qualifications (BTECs). We see this as being particularly important this year given the disruption that our students have faced regarding their education over the course of the 14 months. We also firmly believe that it is in the best interests of our students' general wellbeing and mental health, as we know that they thrive in a structured learning environment where they follow familiar routines and are able to work with their teachers as well as having the opportunity to socialise with their peers.

It is my sincere hope that you welcome the approach that we have taken and support the academy by ensuring that your child continues to attend school as detailed above. Should you have any questions regarding this communication, please do not hesitate to contact the Year 11 Pastoral Team via the following email address, info@farnley.leeds.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully



Mr C Stokes
Principal