

28 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your families are well and that your child is keeping engaged in the learning and other activities offered by the school.

We wrote to you before Easter to share the Ofqual guidance <u>(click here)</u>, which sets out how all schools will submit information to exam boards for each of your child's subjects. I would like to take the opportunity to clarify the following points:

- Staff at the school are <u>not allowed</u> to discuss with parents/carers the grade or ranking being submitted to the exam board. This would be considered as 'malpractice' by the exams board and could lead to disqualifications.
- The grade submitted to the exam board will be informed by what your child would have achieved if they had taken the exam this Summer and will also be informed by what teachers know about your child's achievements **before the school closed**. This is to ensure no child is disadvantaged by being unable to access or complete work during his period.
- The grade submitted to the exam board could be different from your child's latest teacher predicted grade (PC3), which was decided upon and recorded by staff on Go4schools, back in March, **before we closed**.
- Exam boards in collaboration with Ofqual will moderate all grades submitted by schools across the country and will award the final grade to your child. This could be different to the grade the school submits to the exam boards.

We recognise that this will have caused anxieties for both you and your child around the next steps they will be taking, whether this is to attend sixth form or college. I would like to reassure you that the admission process for Preston Manor Sixth Form remains unchanged, which is likely to be the case for other sixth forms or colleges as well. Conditional offers have been given to students if the entry criteria has been met, by the predicted grades decided on by teachers **before the school closed**. As usual, there will be a further opportunity to apply for Preston Manor Sixth Form after the results issued by the exam boards are published on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August**. This will be subject to your child's final grades meeting the entry criteria for the courses they wish to study.

Finally, I would ask that you encourage your child to engage fully in the transition work which is now being set this week. The activities are explicitly designed to prepare them for studying at the next level and for the next stage of their education. Please also encourage them to join the google classrooms for those subjects they are interested in studying next year.





Once again, we understand how difficult this time is for many of you and for the students in managing their anxieties at this time. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by getting in touch their Form Tutor or Director of Student Development in the first instance.

We do miss having all of our students in school, but we must continue to follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. Please rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep pupils learning and the school connected.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Beth Lob

Beth Kobel Headteacher

