

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

Upper Chapel Street , Newry , Co. Down Northern Ireland , BT34 2DT

Telephone: 028 3026 2851 Email: info@stmarys.newry.ni.sch.uk Principal: Miss. D. Crawley B.Sc P.G.C.E M.Sc PQH

23rd March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In light of the recent statements made by the NI Executive and the UK Government to cancel all GCSE and GCE exams this year, I am writing to update you based on the limited information we have received from the Governments and Examining Boards.

To date we have been informed that all Year 13 Modules will be cancelled in May and June and all students should do no further work on Controlled Assessment, Coursework and any other Practical Activities (please see quote from CCEA statement received on Friday 20th March).

'Further to the CCEA communication to centres on 19th March 2020 regarding the summer examinations 2020, we advise you that students should do no further work on their Controlled Assessment, coursework and other practical activities' (CCEA)

However, those pupils studying the following coursework based subjects must continue the completion of their work (until we receive further direction from the English Awarding Bodies) at home as guided by their subject teachers through email, Google Classrooms and Showbie.

- BTEC Child Development, BTEC Sport and Exercise Sciences
- Cambridge Technical IT and Cambridge Technical Business

In **other GCE subjects**, our teachers will continue to provide work for Year 13 students through email, Google Classroom and Showbie in preparation for possible future assessments from the Examination Boards. Those students studying in St Colman's' College or St Mark's High School must continue to complete work set by their subject teachers.

We have not received any details on how results will be calculated and awarded to your daughter for her Year 13 AS Exams.

We will update you as and when CCEA, other Awarding Bodies and the Governments provide us with clear information on how Grades will be awarded to all candidates.

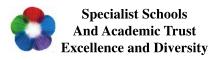
We fully appreciate this is a very worrying time for you and your daughter as a result of this unprecedented situation. Please be patient and allow the Examining Boards and Government to develop a robust and fair system so that the pupils in our school receive the results that they deserve based on the hard work that they produced over the last six months.

The Education Minister and Exam Boards will work with schools to ensure that schools are fully aware of how to proceed and have indicated that students will not be disadvantaged in any way.

Finally, whilst exams have been cancelled, I would strongly advise your daughter to continue studying independently, as she will be completing her A2 Year 14 exams next year and it is very important that she continues to complete any work set by her teachers.















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We are all very disappointed that our Year 13 pupils will not have the opportunity to complete the exams that they have worked so hard for, but the health and safety of all pupils and staff is paramount during this very difficult time.

Please see link below for more information from Government.

We appreciate your continued support and patience during this very challenging time for all of us.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020

Yours faithfully

Miss D Crawley

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Principal











