

Dear Year 11 Parents,

RE: Update from WMG Academy for Young Engineers (Solihull)

At this time of year, we would normally be communicating to you about the start of exams season, shirt-signing day, final assemblies and the well anticipated prom. It is of course incredibly disappointing that I am unable to do this. Instead, you have been at the forefront of managing our students' emotions and well-being at this critical (and challenging) time.

Nevertheless, I wanted to update you on a number of issues:

- Over the course of the next week, the Pastoral Team and I will be recording an assembly which will be distributed to students via Google Classroom in order to 'check in' with Year 11. We plan to deliver some key messages about the next few weeks and months, particularly around final assessment grades and results days so please encourage your son/daughter to view this. We will drop an email reminder after half term stating the time and date.
- Regretfully the Prom has had to be cancelled. We are currently working on refunding to you any deposits paid. However, we would like to mark the graduation of the Year 11 students and are currently trying to find a suitable (and safe) way of marking this.
- I also wanted to reassure applicants to our Sixth Form. We will be working with you closely to aid your transition into Key Stage 5. We still plan to support students on GCSE results day to make the transition into Year 12 and more information will be provided to you nearer the time to explain how we can do this safely.
- A robust preparation package for students wishing to join us in Year 12 is being created and there will be an expectation that this work is completed in order to make up the lost learning time we have experienced since 23rd March. Students will be receiving communication about this work shortly after half term and we will give more details in our online assembly.
- For students wishing to seek careers information and guidance, Mrs Archer is continuing to work remotely and can be contacted at <u>r.archer@wmgacademy.org.uk</u>
- If you have previously been supported by WMG's Special Educational Needs Department (SEN), please feel free to contact Mrs Hickman <u>c.hickman@wmgacademy.org.uk</u> or Mrs Jones <u>g.jones@wmgacademy.org.uk</u> if you have any further queries or need specific information or support. This is particularly important if you will be supported by the SEN/Additional Needs department in your new setting. We can arrange for the transfer of your records, including exam access arrangements and for contact with the department, if requested.

I know that this has been a challenging time for Year 11 students, who, in many ways have been the most significantly affected and disappointed by the closure of the academy just at the point that they had worked towards for so long. I want to reassure you that we are still here for you and your families and will continue to work with you wherever we can.

With very best wishes,

Mr S Tait Associate Principal

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