Monday 27 April 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian

We hope you and your family are keeping well and that you are adapting well to the hectic pace of change within the past number of weeks. What is important is that we continue to look after each other and provide encouragement and support to those around us.

With regard to home schooling, Term 3 has started extremely well. With new learning resources available both online and in paper copy, it is rewarding to see the encouragement that our children are receiving from their parents/guardians and their teachers. Our sincere thanks to all staff who prepared new resources and to those who collected work last Thursday, to ensure that learning continues, albeit for a limited period of time in the course of each day. We simply ask, that everyone does a little everyday, be proud of what you achieve and work to the best of your ability.

As you are aware, the decision has been made that Subject Examinations will not be held this Summer. This is disappointing and upsetting for everyone as many of our students have worked extremely hard to date. I have provided a brief overview below of Examination procedures. It is important to remember that the College Staff will do everything they can to ensure that the grades awarded are fair, reasonable and a true reflection of your child’s ability in Holy Trinity College.

**Year 11 GCSE & BTEC** – Students can continue to work through online / subject resource packs for their own learning and preparation for Year 12. Year 11 students will have **two** options in Summer 2021: a) complete both Year 11 & Year 12 Exams **OR** b) complete Year 12 Exams only and have a statistical prediction of Year 11 work based on Year 12 outcomes. For BTEC, OCN and Occupational Studies, students are encouraged to work through online / subject resource packs for their own learning and progression into Year 12. All work assigned by the class teacher for completion by 20th March will be used in assessment decisions. Please follow instructions from class teacher(s) to identify work that should be submitted.

**Year 12 GCSE & BTEC** – Students can continue to work through online platforms for own learning or in preparation for Level 3 Courses. Individual GCSE grades will be based on teacher assessment of work to 20th March and previous data, therefore any work planned by the teacher to be completed after 20th March will not be used in final decisions for awarding of grades. It is similar for BTEC, OCN and Occupational Studies. Please follow instructions from class teacher(s) to identify work that should be submitted.

**Year 13 AS & BTEC**: Students are encouraged to continue to work through online / resources packs for own learning and progression into A2. Final AS grades will be based on teacher assessment of work to date and previous data. Year 13 students will have **two** options in Summer 2021: a) complete both Year 13 & Year 14 Exams **OR** b) complete Year 14 Exams only and have a statistical prediction of Year 13 work based on Year 14 outcomes. For BTEC, students are encouraged to continue to work through online /resources packs for own learning and progression into A2. For assessment purposes, all work planned to be submitted by 20th March should be completed and forwarded to the class teacher. Please follow instructions from class teacher(s) to identify work that should be submitted.

**Year 14 A2 & BTEC**: Students are encouraged where possible, to continue to work through online / resource packs for own learning or progression into Further & Higher Education. Final A2 grades will be based on teacher assessment of work to date and previous data. For BTEC qualifications and where possible, students can continue to complete units which were planned for submission by 20th March. Please follow instructions from class teachers to identify work that should be submitted.

We will continue to provide relevant information re pastoral / health and safety contact details via the Website, Parent App and Facebook. Emotional support is essential for our young people during these extraordinary times and we appreciate that the school counselling service is still available. Please contact the school at info@holytrinityccookstown.ni.sch.uk if you wish to avail of counselling services or alternatively, students can also self-refer by emailing <https://familyworksni.com/>. This is a confidential service.

Should you need to contact the school for any reason, please do so by email on info@holytrinityccookstown.ni.sch.uk and we will endeavour to respond to you as quickly as possible.

We continue to be incredibly proud of our school community and will do our very best to help and support everyone. Please remember to stay at home and keep safe.

God Bless

Isabel Russell
Principal