

## January 2021 letters



6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent,

Following last night's announcement from the Department for Education the college has decided not to run the upcoming external exams in I media and Enterprise and Marketing which were due to take place on Monday 11th and Wednesday 13th of January. I know that students and parents will be disappointed but given the current situation I do not believe it is safe to bring students into the college to sit these exams. I am also of the opinion that the uncertainty around these exams has hindered student preparation and this would have an adverse effect on their performance. We are awaiting clarification from the exam board regarding further arrangements around student assessment. We are stressing to them the importance of students not being disadvantaged by this decision and I am optimistic that they are listening to what we are saying. As soon as we receive any updates regarding these qualifications we will update you and the students. If you have any further questions about these exams please contact our exams officer Mrs Duell on [eduell@blessededward.co.uk](mailto:eduell@blessededward.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Greg McClarey

Headteacher

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24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent,

Due to the poor weather conditions that we are currently experiencing and, after careful consideration and assessment of our sites and the risks involved, the college will be closed to staff and all students, tomorrow, Monday 25th January 2021.

More snow is forecast for Sunday evening and with reduced traffic due to lockdown, some roads are significantly affected. Our main concern is that temperatures are due to drop below freezing throughout the night and into the morning which would make for treacherous conditions for staff and students travelling to school. For the health and safety of everyone we feel that this decision is in the best interests of all.

Online learning will continue tomorrow but there will be no live elements to lessons. Many of our teachers have children at primary schools which have closed and it would be challenging to deliver live lessons while also looking after them. A significant number of teachers also deliver their lessons from their classrooms in the college so will not have access to all their resources. Teachers will endeavour to ensure that tasks are posted in the relevant Google Classrooms for your child tomorrow. Your child will have the flexibility to complete the work at a time of their choosing. This work will mainly be quizzes, reading and preparation work for their next live lesson.

As the weather seems set to improve from mid-morning tomorrow, we envisage re-opening the college site at the usual time on Tuesday morning for those vulnerable and key worker students who have been attending already this term.

Yours sincerely,

Greg McClarey

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28<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents

Year 10 students will be asked to complete a GCSE-style question during their online lessons in the different subject areas. The questions will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and be answered live during the lesson. Teachers will provide guidance either in the lesson before the mini-assessment question or through Google Classroom. We will use the student responses to gauge understanding of the online learning so that we can feedback and address any misconceptions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Thomas

Deputy Headteacher