

# Message to parents and students - 20 April 2020

Good morning, I hope you and your family are well and have been able to relax a little over the Easter break.

## Distance learning and student welfare

First of all, I'd like to thank you and your children for engaging so fully with distance learning. I realize this involves a real change to the way students learn, and they now need to be very self-reliant, motivated and independent in their approach. They are missing all the interactions with friends and staff that provide them with support and stimulation on a normal school day, and every day can begin to feel very much the same as any other. Your input as parents is therefore particularly important in ensuring students keep the momentum going and retain that sense of still being very much within the Camden School for Girls community. I realize that you are having to provide this in addition to working from home yourself and keeping your household functioning, and this is extremely challenging. I've listed sources of support for you below, but, if in doubt, do please email [csg@csg.school](mailto:csg@csg.school) with any general concerns or queries you may have and we will forward your message to the right person. Staff are checking emails regularly.

You will be aware that schools remain closed for most students for the moment. Children of eligible parents are still coming in, however, and we're looking forward to catching up with them today. Distance learning will now resume either online, or by post for students without access to computers. Teachers are putting activities onto Google and they have been working over Easter to create new materials for the Summer Term.

I have attached some helpful documents from Camden Learning at the end of this message which cover student welfare, financial support and a message from the British Museum.

## Who to contact in school

Many of you have been in touch with colleagues in school and I hope you have received any help you need.

Please get in touch with staff as follows if necessary:

- Questions about distance learning - please contact subject teacher or Head of Year
- Questions about student welfare - please contact Head of Year or Kathia Derrar (Main School - [kderrar@csg.school](mailto:kderrar@csg.school)) or Olivia Camillo (Sixth form - [ocamillo@csg.school](mailto:ocamillo@csg.school))
- Problems accessing FSM vouchers - please contact Rosemary Bradshaw ([rbradshaw@csg.school](mailto:rbradshaw@csg.school))

## Students in Years 11 and 13

My previous letters about centre-calculated grades are on our website in Letters Home and there is further information in the Information About Exams area. Ofqual's documents are accessible and student friendly, but let us know if you would like clarification of any aspect of this process.

Ofqual has launched a consultation about these measures and the school will respond to this. I have been gathering feedback from colleagues who, in turn, have received your views, which are helpful in drafting our submission.

**Ofqual have announced that the A level and GCSE results dates will remain as planned:**

**A level: 13th August**

**GCSE: 20th August**

We will be in touch shortly with study advice for Year Eleven and Year Thirteen students. This continues to be a difficult time for them, with much uncertainty; please be assured that teachers are very carefully reviewing their work and performance and will reach fair and reliable calculated grades for them, in consultation with departmental and senior colleagues. If you are in any doubt about your child's outcomes, please bear in mind that the exam boards will run an autumn series and it may be appropriate for your child to enter these examinations.

### **Friday News**

Friday News will resume this Friday 24th April. We would love to hear from you or your child with any news, special achievements or pieces of advice about how to survive the lockdown. This is an important way of staying connected, and no achievement is too small! So please see if there is anything your child can submit - it could be:

- A piece of written work
- A photo of something they have made - a piece of art, an artefact, a meal or anything they have cooked or prepared to eat
- A photo of themselves finding ways to keep busy and motivated at home - with their permission, of course - this could include hobbies, music practice, maybe even helping around the house....
- Advice from students about helpful websites
- Best ways to exercise and keep fit

With best wishes to you all,

Elizabeth Kitcatt