



THE MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL

HMC/SWS

19 March 2020

Dear Student

I know that you may be unsettled following the Government's announcement about exams. As I said in assembly last week, you are our priority. I want to reassure you that everything you have worked towards over the last five years is valuable and important and the values we all share will steer you in life. Everyone has lots of questions and Government categorically stated that even though there will be no examinations this summer, you will still get the qualification recognition you deserve - that's really important. Soon Government will announce how grades will be awarded and I will continue to update you as information becomes available. Rest assured, colleges will take into account the unusual circumstances facing this year's cohort.

I know many of you are disappointed that you are not in school for the last two days. We needed to balance our desire to celebrate your time at Mountbatten with our responsibility to minimise transmission. Two full days of group hugs would spread too many germs at the very time we need to keep everybody healthy but, so that we can all say goodbye and wish you well, we have made the following arrangements:

Friday 20 March, 8.35 to 10.00 - Final Registration and send-off

We would love to see you in school tomorrow if you are well and not self-isolating. During this time you will be able to collect any personal possessions, empty your lockers, return any school property and – most importantly - say goodbye to your friends and tutors. There is no expectation for you to come in and there will be other opportunities to say goodbye.

We have very few staff left in school to teach the remaining year groups, and so please make arrangements to get yourselves safely home when you leave the school site at 10.00.

Looking beyond tomorrow (bearing in mind that we are in a period of rapid change):

Coursework

The deadline for submitting remaining coursework is Friday 3 April. If you have work to complete or improve in Art, Technology or Catering, you will be able to collect it tomorrow. Work can be submitted in person or electronically if you are in self- isolation. We will retain coursework in case it is needed by the exam boards for awarding grades.

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Google Classroom Tutor Groups

I have asked all Year 11 tutors to set up a Google Classroom Tutor Group so that you can continue to be supported. Tutors will be checking regularly.

Careers Advice

Mrs Shakya will continue to support you through the application process for your post-16 future. Contact her on Sindy.Shakya@mountbatten.hants.sch.uk and she will help you further.

I will personally be speaking to college principals to support your post-16 plans.

Hoodies and Yearbook

You can still order hoodies online; please do so by Friday 27 March. Yearbook submissions can be made to Mrs Peacock or anyone on the Yearbook Committee.

The Prom

We are very keen to celebrate your time at Mountbatten. We have paid the deposit to secure your chosen venue of The Guildhall in Winchester, so hang on to the fab dresses and sharp suits! This is booked for 2 July. We are working on the basis that it will continue – keep your fingers crossed. If social gatherings are still restricted, we will postpone for later in the year.

Results Day and Certificate Presentation Evening

More details will follow, but we expect to have both events.

It has been a privilege to be your headteacher. We would not wish to be saying goodbye so abruptly. However, this is a very challenging time for our country. We are all in this together and we must look after ourselves and each other.

I really hope you are able to join us tomorrow.

Yours sincerely

Heather McIlroy
Executive Headteacher