Dear Student/Parent/Carer

**Summer 2020 Exams – Contingency Day**

The summer 2020 exams may seem like a long way away at the moment, but we have just become aware of some important information that we need to share with you to avoid any possible issues next summer.

During the spring term students will be sent their personalised exam timetables, which will highlight when their final exam will take place. The summer exam period will run from Monday 11th May to Wednesday 24th June 2019 with Art and Photography exams earlier in the year.

However for the summer 2020 exam series a “contingency” exam day has been arranged by the examination awarding bodies which will be added to each students’ timetable. This contingency day for GCSE and/or A Level (or equivalent) examinations has been put in place “in the event of widespread, sustained national or local disruption to examinations during the June 2020 examination series.”

The decision comes following the tragic events in the past, namely the Manchester attacks and the Grenfell Tower fire. The Joint Council for Qualifications have decided that they need the option to postpone an exam in the event of an incident and rearrange for a later date to allow all students a fair and equal chance.

The date that has been set aside as the contingency day is **Wednesday 24th June 2020**. This means that all exam candidates must be available to sit exams from the date of their first exam until Wednesday 24th June 2020. This decision is not a school decision and does apply to all candidates in all schools.

Please can all students/parents/carers make a note of the new contingency exam date in the event that an awarding body needs to invoke its contingency plan. It will be common place and completely understandable for many families to book holidays in June and July as prices will be lower when students have finished their exams. However, it will be devastating for a student to miss out on a good grade after working hard for two to three years because they might be absent from a rearranged final exam.