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Pennaeth Mr M Vickery Headteacher

20th October 2020

Dear parents of year 11

You will have heard the announcement by the First Minister yesterday. In summary:

- Schools will be closed for the half term as normal for Monday 26th of October to Friday 30th of October.
- A national lockdown will come into force at 6 pm on Friday 23rd of October
- Primary schools will open as normal on the 2nd of November.
- Secondary schools will open to students in year 7 and 8 only from the 2nd to 6th of November.
- Students in year 9 to 11 will continue working from home via Google classrooms during the week of the 2nd to 6th of November.
- Schools will open to all learners as normal from 9th of November.

You will also be aware that we have GCSE English language orals planned for the week beginning 2nd of November and GCSE mathematics exams on the 9th and 11th of November.

We are aware that these exams are causing additional anxiety in an already challenging time for some students. We have met with year 11 today to discuss the options and to get the balance right between well-being and learning.

Our plans for the GCSE English oral exams are that they will continue as planned, but be recorded using Google meet, for all those that are able to do this. If you are unable to access Google meet online, there will be catch up sessions held week beginning the 9th of November.

For the GCSE mathematics exams some students would prefer to sit them now, as they feel they are ready, and some students would rather not sit the exam in November, having not been in school for the two weeks prior. Bearing this in mind there is no one solution that would suit everybody.

Please discuss which option would be best for your child. They can either sit the mathematics exam on the 9th and 11th of November as planned or wait until the summer 2021 exam season.

On Thursday, the 22nd of October their maths teacher will record your child's choice during their maths lesson.

In the meantime, if you would like any further information or have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Matt Vickery
Headteacher

Miranda Cookson
Deputy Headteacher