



23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Update for Parents of Year 11 and Year 13**

I hope that you and your family are well. I appreciate that this is a very challenging time for everyone and that this may be exacerbated by concerns created the uncertainty around how your child's GCSE or A level results will be calculated. Our students' well-being and their progress towards their next steps are central in our thinking as we respond to this unprecedented situation.

As you are aware, it has been determined that the GCSE and A level examinations, scheduled for May and June, will no longer go ahead. The DFE has released some information about how grades will be calculated but we are waiting for the finer detail to be released before we take any actions.

Please be assured that the decisions made by the exam regulator, Ofqual, and the Department for Education for GCSEs and A levels, will be based on ensuring equity for all students.

**I appreciate that all students and their families will be anxious, however we are unable to respond to questions about individual students at this time. Please do not contact teachers about this as they will not be able to respond.**

### **Our advice to students:**

- Ensure that all of the learning provided by the school for each subject is completed to the highest possible standard
- Keep an electronic file or folder with print-outs of the learning completed for all of the subjects a student is studying.
- Continue to complete online learning such as MyMaths and UpLearn

### **Specific advice for Year 13 Students**

Universities are expected to be flexible and do all that they can to support students and ensure they can progress to higher education as government policy is to ensure affected students can move on as planned to the next stage of their lives. The UCAS Chief Executive has advised that in terms of university, no student should rush to make a quick decision which may not be in their best interest in the long term. UCAS has extended the deadline for students making choices and will be messaging students directly. At INA, we are encouraging all students to hold off making decisions until more information is available. Students can contact the sixth form team via email: [sixthform@isaacnewtonacademy.org](mailto:sixthform@isaacnewtonacademy.org)

I will be in touch with you as soon as the Government publishes further advice and guidance for schools on GCSE and A levels. In the meantime, please know that the staff at INA have your child's best interests at heart and they are doing all they can to support them with their learning at this time.

Yours sincerely,

**Jo Spencer**  
Interim Principal