

19th March 2020



Principal **Nick Martin**
BSc, MA, PGCE, NPQH

Dear Parent / Carer

Samuel Whitbread Academy would like to say a special thank you to all the parents/carers for their kind words and support during this unprecedented time. We are incredibly pleased and proud that, unlike many schools, our staff attendance has been fantastic this week and has meant that we have only had to cancel Yr12 lessons so far.

Unfortunately, the level of staff absence has increased as more families start to self-isolate; as a result, we need to take further action to safeguard our community. Given the government's announcement that examinations are cancelled for May/June, we are now prioritising years 9, 10 & 12. **Therefore, Year 11 and 13 lessons will not run from tomorrow (Friday 20th March) and students will not be in school.** The only Year 11 students who are permitted onsite tomorrow are the drama students who are taking their practical examination. We will contact students directly regarding any arrangements for future examinations or coursework completion.

We will be arranging times for Year 11 and Year 13 to be onsite to collect any personal items over the coming weeks and will contact you in due course.

We appreciate that for many of our students this may be an unsettling and emotional time and at Samuel Whitbread Academy we have a long tradition of celebrating the end of year, but in this current climate this is not possible. We will do everything we can to reschedule and facilitate celebration events for later in the year, so we can say a proper goodbye to our Year 11 and Year 13 students.

Can I once again thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Nick Martin
Principal

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