



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week. It is certainly nice to see the sun out.

Since the announcement of the return to school for students from Monday 8th March there have been a range of announcements. This week we have been conducting a range of planning to ensure it is a smooth transition back into school for students. This will be shared in full early next week.

Exam announcement

I am sure many of you would have heard about the exams update this week. The [Education Secretary announced](#) that students will receive grades awarded and determined by their school, based on what they have been taught and fortunately, with no algorithms. Schools will need to submit their grades by Friday 18th June. The guidance states that students are not allowed to know their grades until results days.

Students will receive their results for A/AS levels on the 10th August and GCSEs on the 12th August. These earlier dates do provide additional time for appeals to be completed, so students reliant on those outcomes to achieve their university offer have the best chance of accessing a place.

By the end of the month exam boards will be sending schools a range of assessment material that could be utilised as well as a quality assurance model. A range of evidence can be used by schools when determining grades including, class work, in-class assessments, mocks and coursework. All the detailed information from the announcement can be found here: [Awarding qualifications in summer 2021](#) Once students in Year 11 – 13 return, we will be talking through all this information in detail, as well as providing all the information they require about our approach.

Uniform

When students return to school for their lessons they will be required to wear full uniform. If you are worried that your child may have grown out of their uniform over the last few weeks, there are two options.

1. This week we have been in touch with our uniform supplier Scholars. Although they are currently closed, you are able to mail order products. This can be done through their website: <http://www.scholars-uk.com/>
2. At school we have a second-hand uniform shop and on **Tuesday 2nd March** we will be opening it for the whole day between **9am and 3pm**. If you would like to purchase any second-hand uniform, please come to the school reception to have a look.



The John of Gaunt School

A Community Academy

Shoes

As you know our uniform policy is black, leather polishable shoes. When students return, as far as possible we would like to maintain this. Currently shoes can be purchased on-line or in some supermarkets. However, we recognise that shoe shops are not open until April 12th and there may be some exceptional circumstances when children have outgrown their shoes and they require shoe shops to re-open in order to replace them. In these circumstances we would ask that you provide a written note / letter for your child to carry on their return to school. These students will then be able to wear sensible alternative shoes. Currently shoe shops are due to re-open on April 12th. We will then expect all students back in proper school shoes as per our policy when they return to school after the Easter holiday on Tuesday 20th April.

Vulnerable and Key worker students - w/b Monday 1st March

Please see next week's booking form for key worker and vulnerable students. Please note, due to all staff coming into school on Friday 5th March and no 'live lessons, we would appreciate it if you are able to make arrangements for your child to remain at home on this day. However, if this can't be accommodated you will still be able to book them in.

[Booking form for vulnerable and key worker students for w/b Monday 1st March](#)

Please keep an eye out next week for all the detailed information about students return to school. This will include their COVID-19 test dates and return date.

As always, thank you for your continued support. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Keep safe and well everyone.

Paul Skipp
Headteacher