

15 June 2021



Dear Y11 Families

It is with great sadness that I write to all of you on the back of last night's widely predicted announcement from the Government that the easing of Covid restrictions would be delayed by at least 4 weeks.

It is against that backdrop and the rise in Covid cases both locally and nationally, that I now need to inform you of changes to our plans for current Y11 students. You may not be aware that we have had 14 positive Covid cases at the school over the last week and that around 250 of our students and three staff are currently self-isolating. Those developments, too, also have a bearing on the difficult decisions communicated below. Similarly unwelcome messages are also being delivered this morning to Y13 students and families. They, too, are also adversely affected in relation to their own planned Leavers' Service at Tewkesbury Abbey and their own prom and sign off events being cancelled or revised.

Y11 Prom

Of perhaps greatest significance and likely to cause the greatest heartache, is the cancellation of this year's Y11 prom. As happened last year, this event will not now be able to take place due to Covid. A postponement for 4 weeks would pose us serious issues, not least the lack of availability of the venue, an event occurring during the school summer holidays and no guarantee at this stage that restrictions would be relaxed. For those reasons and with a heavy heart, I inform you of the confirmed cancellation. Any monies paid for tickets will of course be refunded at the earliest opportunity.

Y11 Sign Off

Students were due to come into school on Friday 25 June to return their books and to attend a final assembly. Arrangements for this, too, are having to be revised. There will no longer be a final assembly and students/families are asked to drop off any school and library books in clearly labelled bags in one of two boxes in the Main Reception area of E Block at any time between Monday 28 June and Friday 2 July. Like last year, we will be trying to offer up a virtual replacement of some kind but recognise that this will be seen as a poor substitute. If any families are willing to donate items of branded schoolwear that are in good condition and no longer required, then these will be very gratefully received at the same time.

Y12 Induction Day

Those young adults planning on returning to Tewkesbury School Sixth Form in September were anticipating returning for an induction programme on Tuesday 29 June. This induction will now take place remotely and students will receive further details in due course from the Sixth Form team.

Messages like those above are neither easy to give nor receive and I offer my heartfelt sympathies to all those children and families who have invested in, and were looking forward to, these end of year events.

I wish you and your children well for whatever the future holds.

With very best wishes and sincere apologies.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. M. Watson', written in a cursive style.

Mr G M Watson
Headteacher

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