

19 March 2020

Dear Parents,

As many of you will have seen yesterday, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Mr. Boris Johnson and the Secretary of State for Education, Mr. Gavin Williamson announced school closures in England from Friday 20th March, and with this examinations, including GCSEs and A-Levels will not go ahead this academic year.

As a school, we fully understand that this news is unsettling for families of students in examination years. Please be assured that our priority is to be available and to support you through this time. The UK Department for Education (DfE) has announced that it will work alongside examinations boards and schools to ensure that all students gain the qualifications they need, deserve and have worked so hard for. We will of course communicate these outcomes to you as soon as we know more.

As we now wait on clarification from the DfE, we ask that all students in examination years commit fully to the distance learning programme provided by the teaching staff at The English College, and continue with all, and any expectations, set by teachers. It is important that students complete all learning associated with courses so that we are able to confirm and validate this to examination boards. Whatever the eventuality our aim is to ensure that our students are fully prepared and supported for the next steps in their educational journey.

We thank you for your continuing support and please do not hesitate to contact us should you have further questions.

Mark Ford  
Principal

**Our vision is to develop all our students as academic, characterful, happy young people equipped with our values and with the knowledge, attitude and skills necessary to succeed in life.**

**Our Values are Respect • Aspiration • Excellence • Collaboration • Responsibility**

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