



The  
Portsmouth Academy

23 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Year 11 – Summer Term 2020**

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well.

I know this is an extremely emotional and challenging time for us all. It is certainly a moment in time that will be remembered for generations to come. We are very mindful that your daughter would normally be preparing for her first GCSE examinations at this time and this now leaves a void.

In 'normal' circumstances, your daughter would typically be in revision lessons with her teachers during this term. Consequently, 'live learning' opportunities will no longer continue for Year 11 students, although there is still access to GCSE Pod to use the 'Study at Home' pack if she wishes. However, we do want your daughter to use this time to ensure she keeps up her skills in order to prepare her for college or an apprenticeship scheme. Therefore, I am providing some guidance on how she can access work and the support that is available to you and your daughter.

We are building an area for Year 11 on the school website where you can find information about colleges and the application progress. We are also working closely with Portsmouth College to launch the 'Flying Start' programme, which will support your daughter's transition to the next phase of her education. I will write again, when I have more information about the timing of this launch, but in the meantime the website is stated below:

<https://www.theportsmouthacademy.org.uk/careers-education/y11-guidance-coronavirus/6801/>

In addition, your daughter will still be invited to attend a weekly PSHE session with her tutor every Thursday period 1 (9am – 10am) on Microsoft Teams. These sessions enable your daughter to access resources to support her well-being and are an important time to stay connected with her tutor and friends.

To support tutors, I will also be running a live drop-in session for Year 11. This session will run every Thursday from 11:20am – 12:20pm. I will be available online and will be able to answer any queries, worries or concerns that your daughter may have as her Head of Year, that are not related to the process of awarding her grades (as per the letter sent out on Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020).

As always, please contact me via email at [h.piper@tsatrust.org.uk](mailto:h.piper@tsatrust.org.uk) and I am happy to help with queries or concerns relating to your daughter.

Kind regards,

Hellen Piper  
Head of Year 11

[www.theportsmouthacademy.org.uk](http://www.theportsmouthacademy.org.uk)

TRANSFORMING LIFE CHANCES

Principal: Rachel Grey, BA (Hons)  
Director of Education: Natalie Sheppard BSc (Hons) NPQH

St Mary's Road, Portsmouth PO1 5PF  
E: [info@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk](mailto:info@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk)

T: 0333 360 2200  
Registered company number: 7359755

