



St Benedict's College

5 Craigstown Road, Randalstown, Co. Antrim, BT41 2AF

Telephone: 02894472411 Email: info@stbenedicts.randalstown.ni.sch.uk

11 January 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Letter from Minister of Education – 8 January 2021

I hope you will have had time to review the Minister of Education's letter issued on Friday. It confirms that all GCSE, AS and A-Level examinations have been cancelled for this academic year. He explains that DE and CCEA are currently working on alternative awarding arrangements and suggests that in the absence of examinations, grades will be based on the professional judgement of teachers, with moderation but no algorithm.

Unfortunately, I can not give you any more information at present. The Minister has suggested that he will not be in a position to provide more detail until the end of January. In the meantime, the expectation is that schools will cover the full specification for all qualifications and complete the programmes of learning in all subjects. **It is crucial therefore, that all GCSE students remain focused and engage fully with remote learning through Google Classroom.**

Please be assured of our support for all our students at this time and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions/concerns or if we can be of any assistance to you or your child.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Catriona McAteer
Principal