

HEADTEACHER: Mr G Rule



FAO: Students, Parents & Carers (Year 11)

RE: Update regarding the Year 11 Leaver's Assembly

Dear Students, Parents & Carers

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well at this time.

As you will be aware, the Government recently announced a delay to the final easing of lockdown restrictions in England by four weeks, until **Monday 19th July 2021**. As a result many of the activities planned at home and at school for the next few weeks are no longer permissible under the current Government guidelines.

In recent weeks there has been a rapid increase in new Covid-19 cases across Greater Manchester, as well as nationally. We also know that most of these new cases are in younger age groups, in particularly teenagers and young adults. These increases are due to the spread of the new Delta variant of the virus which is more transmissible, as well as increased mixing due to lockdown easing in recent weeks. The control measures adopted by schools such as social distancing wherever possible, the use of bubbles and lateral flow testing are still proving effective at reducing the risk of spreading the virus. The recent increase however, has seen the raising of expectations regarding the wearing of face coverings in schools across the secondary education sector in Tameside.

Due to the Government's recent decision to extend restrictions on social gatherings, Tameside Local Authority have stated that it would be neither safe nor sensible for planned Year 11 & Year 13 Proms to go ahead before the final easing of restrictions on **19th July 2021**. It would therefore be inappropriate for Denton Community College to continue with its plan to hold the Year 11 Leaver's Assembly, currently calendared for Thursday **24th June 2021**.

This decision has not been taken lightly, we were so looking forward to celebrating the journey of the Class of 2021 with the students. This will be difficult news to hear for many of our young people who have lived through very challenging times over the last two years and who deserve better with regards to the marking of their leaving secondary school. We look forward to welcoming the students back on **Thursday 12th August** for their results day and hope they can come together again in the autumn term to celebrate their achievements as the Class of 2021.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Rule", is positioned below the "Yours sincerely" text.

Greg Rule
Headteacher