

April 2021

Dear Families,

As we settle into the summer term, I cannot tell you just how proud I am of the way in which our staff and our children have responded to the ongoing challenges.

It has been a very different year for your children and we are acutely aware of the further challenges ahead as we support them through their final assessments.

It is important that students continue to work hard in all lessons including where they are preparing for their assessments. Where assessments have been completed, staff will ensure that the curriculum continues to address any gaps in knowledge and supports students going off to their next phase in education, whether this is 6<sup>th</sup> form, college, university or apprenticeship.

I know that many of you have been asking about a leaving date and it has been pleasing to see that the DfE has supported schools to be flexible in this due to the range in methods for assessing final grades. Students in year 11 and 13 will be expected in school for lessons up until Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. In the last week before May half term we are planning a leavers assembly for students in both year groups to see their tutors, receive their Record of Achievement and celebrate their time at CTA. Attendance at the events will be restricted to students and school staff only due to coronavirus restrictions but we will record it for you to watch at home. Please be aware that due to safeguarding we will not be able to record the event live.

Whilst the official DfE leaving date remains as the last Friday in June, we are able to be flexible with the learning in the weeks after the May half term. After half term year 11/13 students will not need to come into school and we will provide work in the form of online bridging units for students studying with us at 6<sup>th</sup> form, core lessons for students going to college to study level 2/3 courses and employability courses for those moving into training or apprenticeships.

We have subscribed to a website called 'Be Ready' which has lots of useful courses that students will be able to access. A link with more information will be sent out soon to give more details on this.

We will also do a final parent(s)/carer(s) update meeting to ensure that families are clear on the process of awarding of grades, results day arrangements and appeals. Please look out for the link for this as we approach half term.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support. You are all a very important part of our community and we are committed to working with you to ensure your children get the very best education and the best opportunities, even in such extraordinary times. Please do get in touch if you need us, or if you have any queries.

Kind regards,



**Nicola Mason**  
**Head of School**