



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

26th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Decision to cancel the 2021 Year 11 Prom

After a great deal of consideration, we have made the decision that the prom for our 2021 leavers must unfortunately be cancelled. I am sure that many Year 11 students and parents/carers will be disappointed with this decision, which has been an extremely difficult one to make.

The decision to cancel the prom has been made after consultation with students, taking health and safety advice from the Local Authority and following guidance from Public Health England. It is clear from our consultation that many students are uncertain about attending the prom. In addition, it is also still unclear whether an event of this size could safely take place in the current climate. This decision is also in line with other local secondary schools, who will not be holding similar events. As such, given these factors it is unlikely that the prom would be the meaningful end of year experience that we would all wish to see for our students.

We are hoping that we can still hold our Leavers' Mass but again this will depend on Government guidelines and also Diocesan approval. If we cannot hold the Leavers' Mass we will ensure an appropriate service is held to celebrate the students' time at St James'.

Again, this has been an incredibly difficult decision to make but we feel the right decision given the circumstances.

Finally, please be aware that all schools are still awaiting final DFE guidance for when Year 11 will be officially leaving St James'. Once a wider decision has been made on this, we will inform all parents and students as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully

Mr Scott
Assistant Headteacher