

02 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Cancellation of Work Experience for current YR10 students**

I would first like to say a big thank you to all Y10 students who have been looking for a placement since October 2019 and have been actively engaged with the programme, as I am aware that finding a placement is not easy. I would also like to congratulate the students who have already secured a place in the Work Experience Programme for September 2020. This is an achievement of great importance to their employability and exposure to the world of work!

It is therefore with great regret and after careful consideration, that we have unfortunately taken the decision to postpone Work Experience for all Y10 pupils, for this September, due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the ongoing lockdown arrangements. Our decision is driven by our commitment to protect and safeguard our pupils, as it is our understanding that Work Experience visits by the Work Placement Agency "Changing Education" cannot be performed this September at the required safeguarding and Health & Safety standards. We also appreciate that, as a result of the extenuating conditions, a number of employers/organisations may cancel their Work Experience placement offers for similar reasons.

As a result of this postponement, we will kindly require your son/daughter to attend school as normal during the Work Experience week in September. Please appreciate this is an absolute priority for the School, not only to ensure your son/daughter's safeguarding, but also, and very importantly, to allow them to regain the classroom time lost due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

Please let me assure you that St. Marks' commitment to our pupils' learning, but also their safety and wellbeing, remains strong and allow me, once more, to extend our congratulations to you and your son/daughter for achieving the high standard of securing a Work Experience post.

Yours faithfully,

**Ms A.Glymidou**

*Head of MFL & Careers Lead*

[aglymidou@stmarksacademy.org.uk](mailto:aglymidou@stmarksacademy.org.uk)

Principal Lisa Peterkin



The Diocese of  
Southwark



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