



OLDFIELD SCHOOL

19.03.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government announcement yesterday made it clear that GCSE exams will not take place this summer. This is devastating news for both students and staff, who have worked so hard over the last few years in preparation for these examinations. This Year 11 cohort have been superb and we were confident of them achieving a fantastic set of results this summer and it is upsetting for all involved that they will not have the opportunity to do so.

The statement yesterday confirmed that students will “get the qualifications they need and deserve for their academic career”. At this stage we have no details about how this will be managed but we can assure you that we will do everything we can to ensure that our students are awarded the grades they deserve. This is something we will be working tirelessly for over the coming days and weeks.

As you will be aware, we had originally prioritised for Year 11 students to be in school from tomorrow onwards. However, in light of the news yesterday, we feel it is unfair to expect students to attend lessons on Friday. Inevitably, there would be an end of year feel to the day for both our Year 11 and Year 13 cohorts and this would present issues with regards to what is now a pressing need to minimise social contact. I am also aware that many of the students in Year 11 will not be in school because of the need to self-isolate.

At this point we do not know when school life will return to normality but I can assure you that when it does we will make every effort to give our current Year 11 cohort the opportunity to get together and to recognise and celebrate their contribution to the school.

We understand that many students will be struggling with this news and we will provide as much support as possible over the coming days. We will ensure that there will be staff available to talk things through with individual students, if they wish to do so they should contact the school by email or telephone and someone will call them.

We will keep you updated as and when we have more information from the Department of Education.

Yours faithfully,

Steven Mackay