

Wednesday 6th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Cancellation of 2021 GCSE Exams

You will have seen from the prime minister's announcement on Monday that we have now returned to a period of lockdown.

I know that like us you will be very disappointed at this news, knowing that students will not be returning to Oak classrooms until after the February half term.

I am delighted to share, however, that live lessons through Microsoft Teams have been positively received by students, Year 11 in particular, and they remain our priority over the coming weeks in ensuring that work set remotely is both challenging and continues to follow the content that would have been delivered on-site.

It is with great sadness, then, that the government has further announced that GCSE exams this summer will not go ahead as planned. This is what they have said:

"In these circumstances, we do not think it is possible for exams to go ahead fairly this summer. The Secretary of State for Education will be asking Ofqual to consult rapidly on an approach for alternative arrangements that will allow students to progress fairly."

We know how hard Year 11 students have worked this year and our hearts go out to you all on hearing this news.

For now it's important that working remotely, we continue to follow the timetable and teach the content and skills expected.

Drawing from our experiences last summer, it's important that students continue to work hard and ensure they produce their best work possible at this time, until we know what arrangements will be put in place.

I will of course update you once information has been published, but in the meantime would like to thank Year 11 students (with support from their parents) for the positive start shown in working remotely.

Do not hesitate in contacting academy staff if we can support in this regard.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Burgas
Principal

Oak Academy

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