

Friday 23rd April

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a good start to the summer term and our Year 11 pupils are now in full swing with their GCSE assessment programme. I have been very impressed with the mature attitude they have shown and their commitment to do well.

As you are aware, the programme of assessment will be completed by Friday 28th May. In the event that we may need to obtain further evidence to support the awarding of a grade and support with their next steps in September, it is important that pupils attend up to, and including, this date.

Once pupils have completed assessments in specific subjects, there will be a programme in place to maximise their remaining time in school. This will be a strategic and targeted programme of focused time to support revision for the remaining assessments and, in addition, we have developed a programme of enhanced learning, to help prepare them for Post-16 progression.

The last day in school for all lessons will be **Friday 28th May**. Pupils will attend lessons in the morning as usual and have their break at 11.40am. At 12 noon they will all go to the Main Hall for a short assembly and shirt signing ceremony, pupils will then be able to leave from 12.20pm. Although this will mark their final day of learning at Oakwood, for many it will not be the last time they are together. For those who have met the criteria, we have the Prom to look forward to on **Wednesday 7th July** and the Leavers' Assembly on **Friday 9th July**. Closer to the dates, and following confirmation from the Government that mixing in large groups can take place, more information will be sent.

Over the next few weeks and months, you may have further questions and queries about the awarding of GCSE and BTEC grades this summer. Below is the link to the Ofqual guidance I have previously shared with you for parents and pupils. This covers everything from how pupils are assessed, to how evidence is collected and the appeals process.

[JCQ Guidance to Parents and Pupils](#)

JCQ have also released the following email contact for pupils and parents which is in the public domain, for any queries you might have summer2021@jcq.org.uk. However, it is advised that before emailing queries, pupils and parents should first contact school.

There may be circumstances when a pupil's performance in assessments is affected by temporary illness, a temporary injury or some other event outside of their control. It is important for you or your child to raise any mitigating circumstances which would warrant special consideration

A member of the Inspire Trust

as soon as possible, ideally at the time of the assessment and prior to the submission of the assessment grade. Please email n.moorhouse@oakwood.ac if you have any questions.

Before pupils can leave we need to remove their iPads from the school monitoring system, and this can only be done whilst in school. Removing them from our monitoring system will allow us to offer the iPads, free of charge (unless there are any outstanding payments), to those Y11s who have collected enough Achievement points. If any Y11 does not want to keep the iPad, please hand it in to school. For the benefit of our younger pupils, you can also donate unwanted revision guides and books to school. Lockers need to be emptied and the locker keys returned to the Main Office. Once we are sure that the locker has been emptied and left in a good condition, deposits will be returned.

We are certainly now into the final stretch, whether the pupils are undergoing traditional external methods of GCSE assessment, or the current internal processes, it can be a very demanding and stressful time for young people. This comes from their desire to do the best they can as they look forward to the future and new challenges. Although pupils will not be in school after the May half term break, we will still be here for our pupils. Those who are currently receiving counselling or mentoring can, if they wish, continue with their sessions, either in school or remotely. In addition, pupils can email their PLTs for emotional support, or to help them if they need careers or Post-16 progression advice.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support and trust you have given to Oakwood High School over the last five years. I speak on behalf of all our staff when I say it is a pleasure and privilege to work with the young people in our school and we wish them every success now and for the future.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Eccles - Head of School

Letter translation is available.

Ak potrebujete pomoc s prekladom, kludne mi napíšte email a ja vám zavolám pri prvej vhodnej príležitosti. Moja emailová adresa je h.vereczy@oakwood.ac

شکریہ کریں رابطہ پر نمبر گئے دیئے اوپر کرم براہ تو چاہیے ترجمہ اردو کا خط اس کو آپ اگر
s.khan@oakwood.ac