

 Date: 20th April 2020

**Ref: GCSE exams and Post 16.**

Dear Parent/Carers,

 It is without doubt that this year has been an unprecedented period for many of our parents and especially all our learners who were in the process of preparing for their GCSE exams. We are aware that for many of our students and parents, questions continue to arise regarding GCSE exams and post-16 career options which are leading to confusion, worry and stress.

 It is our hope that this letter answers some of the queries many of you have but to also guarantee all of our parents and learners that we are continuing to work behind the scenes to ensure that no student is disadvantaged during Covid-19.

**GCSE Exams and Results**

As stated by the government and awarding examining boards, all students who were to undertake their GCSE exams this academic year will be awarded grades based on what they have been predicted by their subject teachers. The grade given to each student is based on:

* Work produced in classroom
* Results from assessments completed throughout the year
* Mock exam results.

Members of staff will be using a range of different means in order to provide an accurate grade of what each learner is on track to achieve.

**Post 16 Career options**

 For many of our students, this is often the time where preparation is underway for deciding on the next stages of your academic career and selecting the career path that many of you wish to explore and have decided upon. It is without a doubt that many of you have yet to decide on the next path and are unsure as to what you would like to do and how to begin the process of applying for any post 16 career avenues. Please be rest assured that we will continue to provide support for all our learners by arranging phone interviews where a discussion will be had between the student and a designated member of staff exploring option for post-16 and being provided the necessary advice and resources on what to do next.

 For those of our learners who have applied for A-Levels/BTEC’s/Vocational Courses/Apprenticeships, I understand that you may be worried over the uncertainty of your place, however many colleges have reassured us that for applicants who have applied for a post 16 course can be rest assured that their places are secured for the next academic and will continue to update schools, learners and parents on any new developments.

If you have any queries or need further support on post 16 avenues, please contact us via the following:

* info@blackwateracademy.co.uk
* sameera.tassawar@blackwateracademy.org (Deputy Headteacher)
* kyle.morrison@blackwateracademy.org (Headteacher)

Kind Regards

Miss Sameera Tassawar

Deputy Headteacher