



Contact:

Ref: PKI/SST

10th April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. I am writing to you regarding the announcement from Ofqual (regulator who oversees the national examination process) in relation to A Level summer examinations.

I know that this is a difficult time, but it is important to remember that Ofqual have made it clear that their main focus is to be fair to students and ensure they are not disadvantaged. The whole education system is working hard to make sure students are looked after and able to move onto the next step of their education.

Guidance released by Ofqual on how grades will be calculated and a letter to students can be found on our website. <https://www.brookeweston.org/site/data/files/C02E0AE8AC56C6C364CB3B72A76D99B5.pdf> Please take the time to read through the information provided, which should answer many of your questions.

We understand you will be anxious about the situation, but it is important to note that ***the Academy or staff cannot respond to questions or release information about students' grades.***

As a result of this announcement, many of you have contacted the Academy to ask if your child should continue with the home learning we have provide. We suggest the following approach in line with the Ofqual guidance provided.

- **Ofqual:** *“Students who feel that their grades from the summer do not reflect their ability will have the opportunity to take their exams in the autumn series or in summer 2021. If they choose to do this, both grades will stand”.*
- **Ofqual:** *“We believe the priorities for pupils in Year 11 and 13 are to ensure that they complete the curriculum in subjects which they wish to pursue in the following year.*

To ensure that students have relevant work in order to prepare for next steps the Academy will be doing the following:

This situation we currently face will end and academic life will resume as normal. Students will all go on to the next stage of their education and they need to be prepared for this. To ensure that students have relevant work in order to prepare for next steps the Academy will be doing the following:

1. **Online work** - work has been set in subjects to allow students to complete their relevant A-Level studies. The date that these studies will end is the end of Term 4 (Friday 8th May 2020). After this date there will be no more A Level work for students to complete. Revision can continue with supplied revision materials.
2. **Coursework** – Any coursework or portfolios must be kept safe and could be used for evidence in any future appeals. There is no further requirement to continue with coursework.
3. **Post 18 studies** - If you are preparing for studies post 18 or apprenticeships, we would recommend that you speak to the providers to ensure that you have resources to prepare with. We have added a range of activities and tasks to support to TEAMS: [Teams – Year 13 Students – Post 18 Support](#)

4. **UCAS** – The Universities’ Minister has asked universities to pause unconditional offers whilst the details of the grading process are being finalised. As a result UCAS has extended the deadlines that students have to reply to their offers. The latest information from UCAS can be found here <https://www.ucas.com/coronavirus>. Students are still able to apply for 2020 university place through clearing and if they wish to do this should contact nsmith@brookeweston.org for support with the process. Clearing is particularly useful to students who are unsure about their apprenticeship application process as a result of Covid 19.
5. **Student Finance** – All applications for student finance are going ahead as normal, but with small changes in how to contact them and what to do with your identification documents if you are self isolating. Please see the latest information here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-prospective-students> .

Below are some of the online resources that students can access from home during the period before their post 18 plans begin.

- Start learning with online courses from top universities and specialist organisations. Future learn has a wide range of online courses that cover many different areas, from supporting university studies to mindfulness and wellbeing. <https://www.futurelearn.com/subjects>
- If you are looking for ways to explore your subject beyond the curriculum, then this website is for you. Each topic is produced by Cambridge postgraduate students and academics at the cutting edge of research in their field. The topics provide guided activities, questions to think about and suggestions for further reading. <https://www.myheplus.com/>

Careers advice is an important part of the offer at Brooke Weston Academy. Our Careers adviser, Mrs Scott cscott@brookeweston.org, will be available to speak with students who have questions or concerns about their next steps or applications.

I would like to thank you for your patience and support throughout the current situation we find ourselves in. If you have any queries in regards to this please contact curriculumsupport@brookeweston.org

Yours sincerely



P Kirkbride
Principal