

6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

We have made a very difficult decision to withdraw students from sitting the vocational examinations scheduled for this week and next. I apologise in the delay in informing you of this decision, but information from the exam boards was only received late last night. This decision has not been taken lightly and is rooted in the students' best interests, their progress, their future choices and of course their safety and well-being during a National Lockdown.

Exams **will not take place** in the following subjects:

- BTEC Children's Play Learning and Development
- WJEC Event Operations (LEEP)
- BTEC Music
- OCR Sport Studies
- BTEC Travel and Tourism

This **does not mean that students are withdrawn from the course**. They will still continue with their studies and certificate at the end of the school year as normal.

We have been reassured by the exam boards that **no student will be disadvantaged by this decision**. I would like to assure you that we have ample evidence of students' progress and achievement from coursework units, practice exams and work completed in class to submit to exam boards. In addition, we have further plans in place to provide students with opportunities to maximise their final grade by improving upon existing coursework units and completing unfinished units during virtual lessons in Lockdown and when they return to school.

If a student decides that he or she would prefer to sit the exam rather than rely on teacher assessed grades, they will have the opportunity to sit it later in the school year.

Should you wish to discuss this information with us, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Ainsworth (Vocational Subjects Quality Nominee) at the Academy.

Yours faithfully

D Butcher  
Principal