



Monday, 06 April 2020

Dear Year 11 Student & Parent,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well and I wanted to have the opportunity to share with you all the most up to date information I have from different key people with regards to our current situation.

Please find below letters and information from:

- Sally Collier Chief Regulator, Ofqual
- Karen Dolton - Executive Director - Children and Young People

Whilst the information contained in these letters clarifies that the exams are cancelled and explains how your results will be calculated. I wanted to include in this letter some extremely wise words from David Frost the principle at Holy Cross College, he explains why keeping up your learning journey between now and September is extremely important;

*“What I would like schools to embrace, however, is the absolute importance – by way of preparation for further study – of **still getting students as close as possible to the level of mastery in their subjects they would normally have by May/June.** That final exam preparation is often the time when they finally ‘get’ their subjects, and through revision come to a more complete understanding.”*

‘The best preparation for Year 12 is sound knowledge of year 11’.

Keep your learning journey going, keep accessing our online learning and we will see you again soon for your results and to plan some celebrations for your end of year 11. You will be emailed your final report on 24th April so please make sure we have your up to date email address. This can be sent to enquiries@hazelwoodhigh.co.uk

Finally, can I remind you of the messages I gave you on our final day in school that we are proud of you, we believe in you and we are here for you.

Take care and stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Greenhalgh'.

Paul Greenhalgh

Head Teacher



Hazel Avenue, Bury, Greater Manchester BL9 7QT

0161 797 6543

enquiries@hazelwoodhigh.co.uk

www.hazelwoodhigh.co.uk

Headteacher: Paul Greenhalgh



03, April 2020

GCSE, AS and A level students in England

A message for all GCSE, AS and A level students this summer:

I understand how unsettling the past weeks have been for you, since the announcement that exams have been cancelled this summer, and that you are urgently waiting for news.

I wanted to let you know what we are doing to provide you with grades. Our over-riding aim in this is to be fair to students this summer and to make sure you are not disadvantaged in your progress to sixth form, college, university, apprenticeships, training or work because of these unprecedented conditions.

How will grades be calculated?

Your school or college will be asked to send exam boards two pieces of information for each of your subjects, based on what they know about your work and achievements:

- the grade they believe you were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned
- within each subject, the order of students at your school or college, by performance, for each grade.

This information will be used to standardise judgements – allowing fine tuning of the standard applied across schools and colleges. Your school or college will consider a range of things like your classwork and homework; your results in assignments and any mock exams; any non-exam assessment or coursework you might have done; and your general progress during your course.

This information will allow us, with exam boards, to standardise grades across schools and colleges, to make sure that, as far as possible, results are fair and that students are not advantaged or disadvantaged because their schools or colleges are more generous or harsh than others when making those judgements. That means the final grade you get could be different from the one your school or college sends to the exam board.

Do I need to complete any new work for my school/college to submit a grade?

Your school or college is not required to set additional mock exams or homework for your centre assessment grade, and you won't be disadvantaged if you were not set, or were unable to complete, any work given out after schools were closed.

Can I see the grades my school/college submits for me?

No, this information will be confidential. Please don't ask your teachers, or anyone else at your school or college, to tell you the grades they will be sending to the exam boards or where they have placed you in the order of students; they will not be allowed to share this with you.

When will I get my results?

We're working hard to get results out as soon as is possible – results won't be delayed after the dates they were expected in August, and ideally, they will be issued a little earlier, so you can have the certainty you need.

Can I take my exams another time?

We are working with exam boards to offer additional exams in the autumn term as soon as it is possible to do so. We'll let you know about these in the coming weeks. The information we have published covers GCSEs, AS and A levels, plus Extended Project Qualifications and Additional Extension Awards in maths. You can find out more about which qualifications and students are included, and the current arrangements for those which are not, in our detailed guidance; along with answers to other questions that you and your parents or carers might have. We will keep updating our guidance as new information becomes available, including to share details about vocational and technical qualifications as soon as we can, so please keep an eye on our website. Please be reassured that the grades you get this summer will look exactly the same as in previous years, and they will have equal status with universities, colleges and employers, to help you move forward in your lives as planned. With every best wish,

Sally Collier Chief Regulator, Ofqual

Our Ref KD/AB
Your Ref
Date 3 April 2020
Please ask for Karen Dolton
Direct Line 0161 253 5501
E-mail k.dolton@bury.gov.uk



Year 11 pupils
Bury schools

Dear Year 11 Pupil

CANCELLATION OF EXAMINATIONS SUMMER 2020

Following the announcement of the cancellation of this summer's examinations, I am writing to say how sorry I am that the hard work you have put in over years of study will not be examined in the usual way in 2020. However, I want to reassure you that your efforts and the work that you have already done will not be wasted. The government has made it clear that the awarding of grades for your GCSEs, and other qualifications, will be based on a number of factors including the grades that your school expected you to attain.

The regulatory body in charge of examinations, Ofqual has been working on how grades will be calculated. They have stated that this will include expected grades from your school and have today outlined the process they will follow to make sure grades are fair across schools. Their main aim is to *"be fair to students this summer and to make sure you are not disadvantaged in your progress to sixth form, college, university, apprenticeships, training or work because of these unprecedented conditions."* I attach a copy of Ofqual's letter to students published today. You can check Ofqual's website for the latest information <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual>.

The priority is to ensure that you can move on as planned to your next stage whether that be employment, college, sixth form or an apprenticeship. The Principals of Bury College and Holy Cross College have assured your headteacher that they will be welcoming and understanding working closely with your school to ensure that, if you have applied to either of the colleges, you are able to access the course you deserve.

It is important that your school continues to set and mark work during the period of school closure. Whether you are entering college or the world of work your attitude to learning and your ability to persevere are key skills. It is therefore important that you are able to demonstrate that you have continued to study during this period of enforced school closure so strengthening your position for when you transition into post-16 education, employment or training.

If you have any specific concerns regarding your examinations, the gap in your education or your progression then Bury's Connexions Service and 14 -19 Team have established a dedicated young person's helpline which is **open from 10.00 – 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. The number is 0161 253 7733.**

Best wishes for the future. Stay safe and stay well.

Yours sincerely

Karen Dolton

Karen Dolton

Executive Director

Children and Young People