

28th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you all well, I know that some of our families are dealing with the direct effects of COVID 19 and our thoughts and best wishes are with you.

Whilst we are working behind the scenes to ensure we are providing our younger students with the materials they need to continue to access their education, I am very mindful that our Year 11 students may be feeling a little lost as they have abruptly come to the end of their time at Westwood.

We know that the government have now issued guidance as to how Year 11 will be awarded their grades this summer and that every effort will be made to ensure that students are not penalised in any way. Schools are being asked to submit estimated grades of what they would have expected students to achieve in their exams this summer. They are then being asked to rank the students within each grade and send off this information to the exam boards.

The exam boards will be looking at all of the predicted grades along with school's recent performance and the students' prior attainment data in order to make their awards. Students will be issued with exam results and certificates over the summer and these will be as valid as exam certificates awarded in any other year.

Our attention must now turn to ensuring that all of our Year 11 students continue, in September, on an appropriate course of study either at Westwood or at an alternative education provider. Over the next few weeks you can expect a phone call from one of the Year 11 team or Mrs Hodge, our careers advisor, to confirm your plans for next year and ensure you receive the support you need. You can also contact us on the Year11@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk email address.

I know you will all have been disappointed about the uncertainty surrounding The Prom. We will speak to students once we are in a clearer position and see how we might still be able to celebrate the class of 2020.

Eligible parents of Year 11 students are still entitled to claim free school meals. We have been very successful in implementing the government free school meals voucher scheme with most of our eligible parents taking advantage of the vouchers. However, if your child is entitled to free school meals but you have not registered with us for the scheme please contact admin@thewestwoodacademy.co.uk.

I would just like to finish by thanking you all for your support throughout this very unexpected time. We are all working hard behind the scenes to ensure we are still meeting the needs of our school community as best we can. I hope that we can return to some kind of normality before too long and very much look forward to seeing all of our students again. Stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully



Ms H Lawrence
Head of School