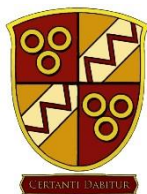


The Oldershaw Academy

Valkyrie Road
Wallasey
Wirral CH45 4RJ
Tel: 0151 638 2800



Executive Principal:
Mr J Bush

E-mail: schooloffice@oldershaw.wirral.sch.uk
Website: www.oldershaw.wirral.sch.uk
Company Registration: 07652792

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

On the 4th January the DfE informed schools that they expected the exams to go ahead; this was advised at the same time as they confirmed that all A Level and GCSE exams in Summer 2021 would not take place.

On 5th January the DfE gave schools, *the choice* to offer students vocational exams in January 2021, should schools 'judge it right to do so.'

The guidance from the DfE to students was as follows: "*We want to ensure that you are supported by us regardless of the choice that is made by your school or college on whether exams take place. If your college or school decides to offer exams, you will be able to run your external assessments as planned and if your school or college decides not to offer vocational exams, we have agreed the following with Ofqual and the DfE to ensure that no learner is disadvantaged.*"

Yesterday, the Education Secretary Gavin Williamson confirmed that there would be no GCSE or A level examinations this academic year and it looks likely that vocational exams after this month will either not take place or possibly be rescheduled.

We have therefore decided to cancel the Year 11 vocational exams that were due to be taken this January.

We have made the decision not only on educational grounds, but in consideration of the health and safety of students and their families, our staff and the wider community.

We appreciate that many students will be disappointed as we know that they have been working hard to prepare for these exams. This hard work and dedication will not be wasted as teachers of these subjects will be setting internal assessments over the coming weeks which will be used towards the final assessment grades.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Bush
Principal