



07 January 2021

Dear Parents

Further to my letter on Tuesday, please find below a brief update:

Free School Meals

Children who are eligible for Free School Meals and continue to attend school will access their meal from the canteen as normal.

The government has now confirmed that vouchers can be provided during school closure for all other children eligible for Free School Meals. I am pleased to share that school will provide a £15 ASDA gift voucher to all eligible students and this will cover next week (Monday 11th – Friday 15th January). There may be a national voucher scheme put in place soon and we will let you know if this will replace the school scheme. The daily value of a national scheme may be different to the school scheme.

All students who are eligible for Free School Meals will automatically receive their ASDA voucher via email and this should arrive early next week. **Please note that vouchers will be sent to your child's school email address**, so please check this from Monday.

Year 11/GCSE and BTEC exams

Following the government announcement yesterday, you will be aware that this summer's GCSEs Examinations will not go ahead as planned. The Education Secretary has asked Ofqual to consider a teacher assessed system, with training and support provided to ensure grades are awarded fairly and consistently.

We have also decided in the interests of safety, wellbeing and fairness to our students to cancel the BTEC and Vocational exams scheduled for January and February.

We understand that some Year 11 parents and students may feel anxious but please be assured that we are acting on information as soon as we receive it. We will continue to respond to updates as we receive them and keep you informed. We will ensure that a fair and moderated process is put in place and teachers will make their judgements on the basis of the evidence available as to the quality of work that Year 11 students have done and continue to do. Although the exams have been cancelled, teaching, learning and assessment continue remotely, and **all students should attend normal lessons with the same positivity, resilience and work ethic as they would in school.**

Contacting School

Should you have any general questions or need to contact school, please telephone 0151 652 1574 during core school hours in term time and leave a voicemail if your call is not answered. You can also contact school on offices@birkenheadparkschool.com or your child's year leader via the email addresses on the school website.



The
Birkenhead Park
School

We will be in contact again as soon as there are further updates. In the meantime, please take care and stay safe.

With very best wishes.

Mrs Johnson
Headteacher

Ambition **AND**
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FOR ALL

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