

June 2020

Dear Year 11,

We are writing to you all under the strangest of circumstances and with so much to say that was left unsaid when your time at Outwood Grange Academy was so abruptly interrupted. You have been an exceptional year group, a pleasure to work alongside and one that will not be forgotten. The fact that you have not been able to take your exams this summer is unfair and your teachers have all felt the disappointment, like you have, in being unable to see their classes walk into that exam hall, put pen to paper and show what they are made of. But don't be discouraged, your time will come and as you venture into the future you will not be remembered as the year group who didn't complete their GCSEs, but as a year group who showed determination in the face of adversity; a year group who put their arms around each other to make sure that everyone knew they mattered; never doubt that your many achievements will be recognised.

This week we would all have gathered at The Royal Armouries to celebrate together and take the opportunity to say one last goodbye before you set off on new adventures. The prom is a special event in the calendar of every Year 11 student and we are so disappointed not to share this occasion with you all this week. With the guidance being reviewed regularly and restrictions being lifted, perhaps an event can be organised in September or October; we will continue to monitor the situation in the hope that you get the celebration that you all deserve. Miss Woods and Ms Morrison are both making contact with students to confirm the order of leaver's hoodies and Ms Morrison has tried over the last two weeks to make contact with every student in Year 11 to have a personal conversation with them and to ensure they have a clear plan in place for Post 16. If you are still unsure about Post 16 education, students can use the contact form on <https://www.careersinc.uk/blog/2020/06/10/virtual-careers-advice/> and the Careers Team will contact them.

At this point, it is important to let you know that at the end of this week you will formally come off our roll. Many of you will rejoin us in September to start courses in Post 16. Whether you are returning to Outwood Grange Academy, heading to college or starting an apprenticeship, we wish you every success - you all thoroughly deserve it. From Monday 29 June, teaching staff will no longer be setting work in Google Classrooms and the regular contact with the more vulnerable students in the year group will end. However, our support will not end here. Ms Morrison, Miss Woods and Mrs Day will be spending time ensuring that your new education providers have any key information they need to best support you as you move forward. We are unsure at this point exactly what social distancing measures will be in place by results day. However, results will definitely be issued to all students on 20 August 2020 and we will be in touch in due course to provide specific information about how students can collect their results.

Outwood Grange Academy staff