

# Ballakermeen High School

Chair of Governors: Mr Alex F Downie OBE



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Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

Yesterday, the Minister for Education in Wales announced that there will be no end of year GCSEs, AS levels or A levels examinations. This directly affects a proportion of our students here at Ballakermeen, as we use the Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC) examination board in a number of subject areas. At GCSE this includes Art, Business French, Drama, Design Technology (not "Food" - that is with SQA), French, German, Maths, Media Studies and Religious Education.

Please note some WJEC exams are branded as 'Eduqas' – the English branch of the portfolio and A Level Media Studies is still showing as having a written examination.

Whilst the precise detail regarding how students will be assessed has yet to be determined, we do know that the initial proposals include using externally set and marked teacher-managed assessments to form the basis for centre-based outcomes.

English examination boards and Cambridge Assessment are currently stating that written exams will continue. You will be aware from my newsletter just before October half-term that the examination period has been extended by three weeks and will not end until July 2<sup>nd</sup>. We appreciate this is an unsettling time for our students, but you can be assured we will work tirelessly to implement whatever changes are necessary both swiftly and with the minimum disruption.

Kind regards,

P. A. Burnett  
Head teacher