

Tuesday, 05 January 2021



**PARK HALL**  
A C A D E M Y

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ASSOCIATE HEADTEACHER: DR T CLOSE

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **January Vocational Exams cancelled at Park Hall Academy for Yr 10-13 students**

I apologise for contacting you so late in the evening, just hours before some students are scheduled to sit one of their January Vocational exams, but the recent publication of new guidance from the Department of Education (DfE) has unfortunately made this unavoidable. You may be aware that shortly before 7pm this evening, the government published an announcement in response to the major exam boards' request for all examinations (not just GCSEs and A-Levels) to be cancelled.

In response to this announcement, and in line with the request from the exam boards, we have taken the difficult decision to cancel the January Vocational exams due to start tomorrow. We have taken this decision to both ensure students' safety and to guarantee fairness across all students and examinations.

I understand that the late nature of this announcement is very unsettling and would like to reassure all of our students affected. The exam board Pearson that runs all BTECs stated tonight at 9.30pm that they will work with, "the DfE to ensure that no learner is disadvantaged"

I hope that this update offers you some clarity and reassurance. We will update you with further information as soon as we know more.

Thank you for your continued patience during these unprecedented times.

Yours faithfully,

Dr T Close  
Associate Headteacher

