



# Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing with regards to the recent PPE (pre-public exams) that took place at the end of April. BTEC students were given their results a few weeks ago so that they could prepare for their external examinations this year. A Level students received their results last week and you should have received a copy of these results via email on Friday. We have had a look through the results and will be speaking to individual students where we have concerns about their grades in order to put some intervention in place for after half term. Some students are very disappointed with these grades but are already taking positive steps to work towards improving them. The following actions will be taking place:

Students who have achieved well in all subjects will be recognised and an email sent home, these students should continue to work on maintaining these grades

Students who have seriously underperformed in **one** subject will be monitored within that subject/department

Students who have gained good grades but lower than required for their proposed university choices will have a meeting to discuss their next steps and will be given a chance to show improvement before UCAS references are written

Students who have achieved a grade that is two or more below their target grade in any subject will be required to re-sit that paper in the week beginning the 20<sup>th</sup> June\*

Students who have seriously underperformed in two or more subjects will be placed on a monitoring/intervention programme starting after half term where they will be given additional study periods. Students on BTEC courses will receive the results of their external exams on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August. We will then see these students in September to discuss this grade along with the internal coursework grade already achieved this year and discuss any possible retakes required in January.

\*after these results have been published we will invite parents/carers in for a meeting if there are still concerns about progress

All students in year 12 will have a one to one meeting with either myself or Miss Purbrick (deputy head of Sixth Form) next half term to discuss their planned destination after Sixth Form and to discuss any academic issues or concerns. For most students in year 12 there has been a sudden realisation about the required amount of independent study required to be successful on level 3 courses and a need to fully prepare for assessments. We recognise that students didn't sit formal GCSE exams last year and therefore the need to complete regular formal assessment is so important. Students do need to understand the importance of using their study time to make additional notes, write up revision cards, complete past papers and use the wealth of on-line resources available to support learning. We have been pleased by the positive response by year 12 students to want to improve their grades and now is the time to take action.





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After half term we will refer to year 12 as year 13 students and staff have already started working on the content for the second year of their courses. In addition, we will be starting to prepare UCAS applications and introducing the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification). We will also be encouraging students to take up enrichment opportunities including MOOCS (on-line courses), degree taster courses, virtual work experience and wider reading. All students have access to an additional 'Team' where we post (almost daily) opportunities and activities to enrich their programme of study.

We will keep you updated as to which of the groups above your child falls into and of course please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely

*K. Brewer.*

Miss Brewer  
Assistant Head teacher, Head of Sixth Form

