



Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to keep you updated with the latest information regarding the awarding of GCSE and A level grades this summer. Last Thursday, the DfE confirmed that students due to sit GCSE or A Levels will receive teacher assessed grades.

We are expecting further details to be released over the next few weeks, but at the moment Ofqual have said the following:

- Teachers will assess the standard at which students are performing based on what they have been taught, so that they can determine a grade.
- Teachers' judgements will be based on a range of evidence relating to the subject content that they have delivered, either in the classroom or via remote learning.
- Teachers will be able to use evidence about a student's performance gathered throughout the course to inform their judgement. This might include work that has already been completed, future work, mock exam results, homework or in-class tests.
- Teachers may also use questions from exam boards, largely based on past papers, to help assess.

As a school, we are already putting plans in place to maximise the time ahead and to ensure that all students feel fully supported. The arrangements for this year are designed so that teaching and learning can continue for as long as possible, and to ultimately prepare students for the next stages of their education. The most important thing is that all students remain completely engaged in their learning and that all work is produced to the best of their ability, so that all of their hard work can be considered for their grades.

Just before Easter, exam boards will be contacting schools, colleges and other exam centres to provide them with further guidance on quality assurance and on the evidence to be used. We will of course keep you updated with these developments.

We understand that these are worrying and stressful times for everyone, but please be assured that we are now working on processes to ensure that all evidence we currently have, and the work students will complete in the time remaining will be used fairly to ensure we are able to give the most accurate professional predictions we can, based on the guidance given from Ofqual.

As part of this process, schools have been instructed not to share any predictions with students, so we would ask that this information is not requested from staff as the school will not share this under any circumstances.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the past few months and please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns or questions.

Kind regards

Mr C Barnett  
Deputy Headteacher