

MEW/jr  
17 November 2021

Dear Year 11 Parents and Students

As a school we feel it is important to make you aware that an 'exams contingency' document was released by the government on Thursday 11 November 2021. This was in response to a consultation about what would need to happen in the unlikely event that exams would need to be cancelled like in previous years.

The document explains that a similar process to last year of Centre Assessed Grades CAGs (Can be referred to as Teacher Assessed Grades or TAGs) will take place based on evidence collected in assessments. If an assessment may be used in the event of a CAG process, teachers will let students know in advance so they have a chance to revise.

Our recent Practice exams are an example of assessment that may be used. In our letter about practice exams we stated 'Although these examinations are a practice for students to experience the questions and receive feedback on them they will also be taken into account if the school is asked to provide a Centre Assessed Grade as we were for the two previous Year 11 cohorts. Therefore, students should apply themselves to their studies and attempt each exam to the best of their ability.'

Like last year, in the event the exams are cancelled and CAGs are used instead to determine students' grades, we will provide a booklet of the evidence used so far and the evidence still to be used. The timing of this will depend on when and if exams need to be cancelled. We had a very stringent moderation process in place last year, were externally sampled by the Exam Boards and all results upheld.

We will take into account all personal circumstances that may have led to a particular student not being present at an assessment or their ability to prepare for it being affected. It is therefore important that we are made aware of any event 'outside the students' control at the time of an assessment such as illness or family bereavement via the tutor or Mrs Fearon.

If there is significant disruption to education for any reason we will use evidence that covers as broad a range of the subject content as possible, which could mean looking back at assessments before Year 11 if required.

Students will be able to receive individual marks and/or grades on particular assessments but this in no way means that this is the final CAG as a wide range of evidence from assessments will be considered as per Government guidelines in this document.

Please find the link to the Government document here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-contingency-arrangements-for-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-summer-2022/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-other-exam-centres-on-contingency-arrangements-for-students-entering-gcses-as-and-a-levels-the-advanced-extension>

For any questions please ask your subject teacher in the first instance

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Wade  
Assistant Headteacher