

NWC/jr
3 March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: GCSE Grading Summer 2021

Following the outcome of the consultation from the Government last week we are writing to tell you more about your child(ren)'s GCSE grades after the cancellation of exams this summer.

The Exam Boards will be asking us as a school to indicate the GCSE grade students should receive based on a portfolio of evidence. Our teachers, who know your child best, will consider the evidence they have of their learning from across the whole GCSE course alongside guidance from Exam Boards to assess GCSE grades.

The evidence used will vary for each subject as have the assessments that have taken place over the last 3 years. This may include practice exam results from Year 10 and 11 as well as in class assessments that will continue to take place after Easter such as practice questions, practice papers and google quizzes. Therefore, if your child(ren)'s practice exam results in November were not what they wanted them to be, there are still plenty of opportunities to improve on these.

If students are completing/have completed Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) in a subject, this will also be used as part of the evidence portfolio. If your child(ren) has access arrangements these will be taken into account in this process too.

Grades will be moderated internally and will also be subject to external spot checks by Exam Boards. Therefore, the grade issued to your child(ren) for each of their GCSEs will ultimately be a centre assessed grade that will reflect the evidence seen. This means they will be awarded a grade which fairly reflects the work they have put in over the three years.

GCSE results day is now on Thursday 12th August and further information about this will be sent to you after Easter. This will include plans for if you/your child(ren) are not able to attend on this day to collect your results.

The important message is that we are all working to ensure that our students, your child(ren) will not be disadvantaged as a consequence of the extraordinary circumstances over the last 12 months. There is a lot they can do in the coming weeks that will still make a difference to their grades. Please help us by encouraging your child(ren) to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills at every opportunity given to them and to continue to work hard in lessons and on self-study tasks.

Our priority is to ensure that the GCSE grades students are awarded mean they can continue their education and move on as planned to the next stage of your life; start college, sixth form courses or an apprenticeship in the Autumn.

Yours faithfully

Mrs N Cowan
Deputy Headteacher