

18 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Year 11 Centre Assessed Grades and continued home-learning

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to provide an update on the DfE's process of awarding Centre Assessed Grades for the summer examination series. At present our teaching staff are working to provide each pupil with a grade based on the past performance of pupils in PPEs, in-class assessments and class work. These grades are due to be submitted to the exam boards for standardisation on the 1st June and they may be adjusted by the boards once they have received all the grades from all the schools in the country. We will not know the exam boards' final decisions until GCSE exam results day on 20th August. We will contact you nearer the time regarding how to collect your child's results on this day. Please do not contact the school prior to this date to request grades as we are unable to release any information.

Pupils have been asking whether they should continue with their studies knowing that it does not contribute to their grades. As mentioned in my previous letter, it is very difficult to answer this as each pupil has individual circumstances. If a pupil feels that they are likely to score a grade 3 or below in maths and/or English, they will need to continue studying that subject at sixth form or college. In this case, it makes sense for pupils to use the access they have now to staff who know their strengths and weaknesses and can provide targeted revision. The resit exams will be in November and will arrive very quickly. Similarly, there could be pupils who need a certain grade to secure their place a sixth form such as grade 5s in a chosen course. If they were not to be awarded the required grade, they would need to sit the exam in November to prove their ability in the subject (this will be dictated by the sixth form or college provider). In these cases, if a pupil believed they were borderline on these grades it would be wise to keep revising the subject and use the support we have at school.

From this point on we would ordinarily have been finishing classes for examination to begin and therefore we are not continuing to set routine work for year 11 pupils. Departments have offered to continue to provide work for Year 11 students who request it to support them in preparing for further study. **It is the responsibility of your child to contact their teachers to tell them they are continuing to do home study.** This will allow staff to more accurately monitor submissions and provide bespoke work for those pupils where necessary.

In instances where a pupil feels that they are in a secure position with their grades, it may be helpful to begin any bridging work being provided by sixth forms and college to prepare for entry in September. If this work has not been issued, please contact the provider to ask if they have any preparatory tasks your child could



be doing.

I hope that this clarifies the situation regarding the expectations on year 11 pupils at this time and helps to structure learning time at home so that it is effectively used.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Chapman'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and a long, sweeping underline.

David Chapman
Senior Assistant Principal