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Headteacher

Andrea Jones

19th January 2021

Dear Families,

I hope you are all safe and well, and thank you for your continuing efforts to support your children with their learning at home during these uncertain times.

Further to my letter last week, the consultation on how GCSEs and BTECs should be awarded for the 2021 series has now been published by Ofqual (the exams regulatory body). The Department for Education and Ofqual are asking for feedback from school staff and learners and their parents and carers who are due to sit these exams this year. This is an opportunity for all of those directly affected by these changes to share their views and offer feedback as part of this consultation – please note that the deadline for responding is Friday 29th January 2021.

If you would like to take part in the consultation, the links can be found below.

For GCSE Grades:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

For BTEC qualifications:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-alternative-arrangements-for-the-award-of-vtqs-and-other-general-qualifications-in-2021>

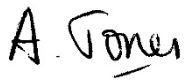
We would encourage you to respond to this consultation wherever possible. As soon as the outcome of this consultation is published and we have an understanding of how the GCSE and BTEC grades will be awarded this year, we will of course be in contact with you again. Please note, that teachers will be unable to discuss with you anything further in relation to the awarding of any GCSE or BTEC grades for individual learners within their subject. Once the outcome of the consultation is published and the process for awarding the final grades is finalised and shared with us, we will be able to put in place the appropriate processes to ensure this is robust and in line with all of the guidance, and we will keep you informed regarding this.

As you will be aware, our Year 11 learners sat mock exams in the majority of subjects in December. Over the coming days, class teachers will be sharing the scores learners achieved in these mock exams with the learners via email. Learners will be able to ask their teachers any questions they may have following this feedback. Usually we would work with the learners in school to review these mock exams and to ensure that feedback from these is used to inform teaching and interventions, and to support ongoing revision and preparation towards final exams. Please be assured that our Heads of Department and subject teachers are ensuring that the feedback from these mock papers is being used to support the planning for the lessons being delivered remotely and the work being set for learners to complete individually to support ongoing learning and progress in all subjects.

The most important thing our Year 11 learners can do at this stage is to continue to engage fully with all of their live lessons and ensure that they complete all of the learning tasks and activities set for them to the very best of their ability, and to engage with their teachers if they have any questions or need any additional support with the work being set. Remember that if you have any specific questions regarding the remote learning for your child that can't be resolved by the subject teacher, you can contact us by emailing homelearning@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk

In the meantime, please get in touch as always, if there is anything that we can support with. Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name.

Andrea Jones
Headteacher

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