

24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I really hope this update finds you as well as can be at this difficult time.

I am writing to you regarding your Summer exams how your grades will be awarded. I know this is something that has been causing a lot of frustration and confusion over the weekend for parents and students alike.

**The short answer is that the government have not yet finalised the system by which your grades will be awarded.** All the Department for Education, media and exam boards have said is that these will be based on teacher assessment and are likely to include mock exams or non-exam assessment e.g. coursework. We have not had any data requested for students and this is not likely to happen for some time. As soon as we know more we will of course let you know.

What we do know is that the government has said that students will have the opportunity to sit their exams when possible (for example if they are not happy with the grade awarded by the government) and parents/students may be able to appeal grades if they wish to. We also know that teachers will have some input into the grades awarded.

Due to this uncertainty and that students/parents may want or need to appeal/sit an exam in the future, we as an academy are stating the following:

1. Teachers will continue to set work for year 11 and 13 students for their learning in the coming weeks/months. Students may be asked to submit work to them as part of this. This work is a way students can demonstrate to teachers your effort and understanding of your courses. This will help them in any future data entry. Teachers will monitor their completion of this work.
2. Students will be asked to complete any outstanding pieces of coursework by their teachers.
3. Students should continue to revise for their courses.
4. Students must not throw away/dispose of any revision guides, exercise books, folders etc.

I completely appreciate that this is difficult for students in the current situation we find ourselves in, however the advice we are giving them s about ensuring they are 'future proof' for any decisions the government make with regard to this system.

Finally, please remember the grades are likely to be given are not only the choice of the school. These are likely to be checked and possibly changed by the government in the build up to them releasing results.

I hope this helps a little with some of the questions you are likely to have. We sincerely want the best for our students from this situation. Following the above advice will help them to get the grades/outcomes you want for the future.

This is the official government statement on exams and qualifications:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced?utm\\_campaign=RT03%20-%20Retention%20All&utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=85045849&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-\\_dnQ\\_NLsrQYWV23WLJ-ibDWyCfa4u4QwM9hAWkdbRlcc0-JFs2pIV7s7dNBP3aNHcru01smr5BpNmFpQx5QZ4ZK0CZLA&\\_hsmi=85045849](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced?utm_campaign=RT03%20-%20Retention%20All&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=85045849&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-_dnQ_NLsrQYWV23WLJ-ibDWyCfa4u4QwM9hAWkdbRlcc0-JFs2pIV7s7dNBP3aNHcru01smr5BpNmFpQx5QZ4ZK0CZLA&_hsmi=85045849)

All the very best, if you have any issues or questions then please do let us know.

Take care of yourselves and stay safe.



Chris Vallance  
Strategic Director for Student Experience