



St. Cuthbert's
Roman Catholic High School

6 April 2020

To Year 10/11 students

I hope everyone is well and adjusting to the current situation. To Year 11, I wish you the very best future and hope we can meet again soon to finish your time at St Cuthbert's in the manner you deserve. To Year 10, I look forward very much to us commencing your journey to exam success as soon as possible.

I know you will have been worried about what is happening with your exams since it was announced there wouldn't be any this year. We now have some information from the government which we can share with you but still not everything. Some things are still being discussed and decisions have not yet been made.

Year 11

We have been asked to provide a grade we think you would most likely have achieved if you had sat your exams this summer. This is based upon a range of factors including the quality of work you produced in class, your previous performance in assessments and the progress you had made over time in each subject. Using this information your teachers are able to make a fair assessment of what grade you would likely have achieved in the summer. Our intention is to be as accurate and fair as we can.

The exam boards will then check the grades against other schools performance, against the expected results for individuals and schools based upon Key Stage 2 data projections and other factors. This is to make sure that students are not advantaged or disadvantaged because their school was either too harsh or too generous with the grades they awarded. It does however mean that some grades may be adjusted from the one that school gives students.

You do not have to do anything between now and the awarding of the grades as nothing done at this stage will affect those grades. It is not possible for school to share those grades with you either in case they are subject to change. On that basis please do not ask staff as they are not allowed to share any details with you.

Results will be issued no later than the August exam results day as planned and it could be sooner but we have not been informed of a definite date yet. If students are not happy with the grades they are awarded and believe it does not reflect their ability and effort they can appeal but there is as of yet no details of how to appeal. There will also be exams in the autumn that students could sit to improve grades but again there is currently no detail on this.

Year 10

At present the government and exam boards are still consulting over what to do about Year 10 exam grades. We will have to wait and see what the decision is. Please do not worry however as we have plans for every possible eventuality which will ensure nobody is disadvantaged by the decision they take no matter what it is. As soon as we know more we will share it with you.

Thank you

D. Shields
Headteacher