

March 2021

Dear Parents of Year 11

As promised last week, I am writing to you to inform you of some of the key decisions that came out of the Department for Education's consultation on the replacement of GCSE/BTEC and Cambridge National exams this summer. Here is a summary of those key decisions:

- 1) There will be no central GCSE, BTEC or Cambridge National exams this summer.
- 2) All GCSE, BTEC and Cambridge National final grades will be decided by centre assessed grades.
- 3) All grades will be submitted to the exam boards by Friday 18 June 2021.
- 4) All grades will be based upon a combination of evidence from the entire length of study of GCSE, BTEC and Cambridge National courses.
- 5) Results will be released on Thursday 12 August 2021
- 6) Students will have the right to appeal once their grade has been released in August.
- 7) In appealing, students can initially ask the school to check that there has not been an admin error.
- 8) If an error has not taken place and students are still unhappy with their grade and feel it does not represent the evidence that has been used to come to that grade, the school will facilitate an appeal to the exam board who will have the final decision.

This is a short summary of the key decisions from the government consultation document. In the coming weeks I will write to you again with some key documents that you will be able to view. These documents will include:

- 1) An overview of the evidence that will be used for each subject in deciding a final grade for their GCSE, BTEC or Cambridge National qualification.
- 2) A more detailed explanation as to how the appeal process will work.
- 3) Confirmation of final decisions for tier entries for GCSE Science, GCSE Maths and GCSEs in Modern Foreign Languages.
- 4) Confirmation of the final date that we will consider new evidence in deciding a student's final grade for each relevant qualification ready for the input to the exam board.

The government is still to update us with a leaving date for Year 11. We will communicate this as soon as we become aware. In the meantime, Year 11 should be in school full time, ensuring they are using every lesson as an opportunity to improve their final qualification grade.

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Headteacher : Mrs Samantha Barnes



On this final part of Year 11s journey with us, we will continue to support them as much as possible to ensure they are equipped to start their post Year 11 adventure. Staff throughout the school are preparing for Year 11s return and ensuring that students will have plenty of opportunities to academically shine.

To ensure that you are in the best position to support your child in securing their GCSE qualifications, we will be offering a virtual Subject Parents Evening on Thursday 25 March between 4pm and 7pm. You will have an opportunity to make an appointment with your child's class teachers and discuss any concerns and ways to support your child at home with their study. Further details on how to make appointments will be communicated shortly. Should you have any further questions, please get in contact with the school.

Yours faithfully



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