

29 April 2021



Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing today to update you on the **GCSE for Summer 2021**. As you are aware, the Government previously announced that GCSE will not go ahead this year and that teacher assessed grades will be awarded instead. Attached is a guidance document from Joint Council for Qualification. These are some relevant extracts from the DFE guidance:

- *Students will receive grades awarded and determined by the school, with pupils only assessed on what they have been taught.*
- *The school will be able to draw on a range of evidence when determining grades, including the optional use of questions provided by exam boards, as well as mock exams, coursework, or any other work completed as part of a pupil's course, such as essays or in-class tests. No algorithm will be used.*
- *To support teachers in making their judgements, exam boards will provide detailed guidance.*
- *Schools will conduct multiple checks – such as checking consistency of judgements across teachers and that the correct processes were followed – to ensure as much fairness as possible.*
- *At the same time, exam boards will conduct their own checks, through a combination of random sampling and more targeted scrutiny where they identify cause for concern.*
- *Every student will have the right to appeal their grade.*

Our teachers are working carefully on Year 11 and Year 12 lessons to ensure students are learning the things that will equip them for further progression in these subjects and can be assessed accordingly in the remaining time that we have. Whilst these lessons may include some new course content, it is likely that most of the time will be spent re-visiting previously covered content. By doing this it will allow us to ensure that students are given the very best opportunity possible to demonstrate their understanding of all topics that have been taught.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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