

9 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

**Year 11 / 13 – Exams Update**

I hope this letter finds you well in these difficult times. I just wanted to give you an update regarding the arrangements for the GCSE, A Level and BTEC results this summer.

As you will be aware, the school had to submit Centre Assessed Grades for each student to the exam board, based on a combination of classwork, homework, mock exams, any non-exam assessment and general progress through the course. In addition, the school had to submit rank orders for each subject by grade, to enable the exam board to standardise these grades nationally. Both the CAGs and the rank orders are **confidential** and individual staff are unable to discuss either of them before or after the publication of results in August. Any discussion of these could be considered **exam malpractice** and violation of the teacher standards. We do not know the actual final grades as these are subject to OFQUAL's standardisation and we do not find these out ourselves until the actual results day. I would like to stress that it is the exam boards that have the ultimate say over the grades and what has been submitted by the school may not be what is reflected in the final grades awarded on results day. The grades awarded will look exactly the same as in previous years and have equal status, enabling progress onto further and higher education.

If a student is not happy with their grade and wishes to improve it then the government have announced that there will be an opportunity to complete an exam in Autumn 2020. We do not yet know how this process will work but any requests will need to come through the school in the first instance. Further information will be published about this once we have clarification from the government. Students are not able to appeal against the CAG and rank order given by the school, as OFQUAL have said that any appeal would have to be undertaken by someone better placed than their teachers to judge their likely grade if exams had taken place and in the unique circumstances of this year, they cannot identify any better person. Additionally, because of the rote of the rank order in grading, such an appeal would have implications for other students in the cohort.

In terms of collecting final results, we will not be opening the site for this to happen in person so Mrs Hawkins has already communicated regarding how results will be shared with students and parents. All results will be emailed out to the relevant addresses submitted and anyone who has not given their personal email address will receive their results through the post, although this will obviously lead to a delay in the student receiving them.

In addition, many students who are leaving us have lockers that need to be cleared and keys that need to be returned to reception. Mrs Wain will be contacting all students who this affects and will be arranging appointments every afternoon over the next two weeks for students to come in and do this in a socially distant manner.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and patience during these unprecedented times, and we hope that you and your family are keeping safe.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Clark  
**Vice Principal**