



26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Year 11 and 13 Parents/Carers and Students

As you will be aware, Ofqual released information yesterday following their consultation about how GCSE, A level and Vocational (BTEC and Applied) qualifications will be determined this summer.

Please see below for an overview of the details we know so far:

## How GCSEs, AS and A levels will be awarded in summer 2021

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Ofqual/21/6751/2

Working out your grade	Evidence	Results and appeals
Graded by teacher judgement	Mocks, tests and work already done can be used as evidence	<b>Results days</b> AS and A level 10 August GCSE 12 August
Not graded by an algorithm	Non-exam assessment should continue	If you're unhappy with your grade, you can appeal it. First step is to submit an appeal to your school or college.
School and college assessments can continue	Non-exam assessments can be used as evidence even if incomplete	You can find out more details from your school, college or exam board, or by visiting the Ofqual website <a href="http://www.gov.uk/ofqual">www.gov.uk/ofqual</a>
You'll only be assessed on what you've been taught	Art & design grade based only on your portfolio	
Your teacher will tell you what evidence is used to grade you	Teachers can use question banks provided by exam boards if they want to	
Private candidates to work with a school, college or exam centre to provide evidence for them to be graded	Results will be based on completed and future work, so keep doing your best	

Details are very much emerging and there are still a number of unknowns. What we do know is that students will need to have completed all assessments by May half term to enable us to meet the exam board deadline for submission of final grades by 18th June. In order to ensure we do our best for the students, we now need time to put considerable planning and training in place. We are also working with other schools to ensure parity, where possible, across the County. We will write to you again by March 26<sup>th</sup> with further details of the programme of summer internal assessment.

In the meantime, students should continue to complete assessed work as best they can. The rescheduled Year 13 mocks will give students invaluable practice ahead of the summer assessments, as well as very importantly, enough time to improve based on teacher feedback, as Year 11 had before Christmas. Both Year 11 and 13 students will be given plenty of opportunities through ongoing assessment in class to show what they can do and teacher feedback will help them improve prior to final summer assessments.

We do not underestimate the pressure students may feel under in the coming months, but teachers understand that students can have 'blip' assessment results and also know the significant progress many students can make over the last couple of months.

If your son/daughter is struggling, please don't hesitate to contact his/her form tutor or Head of Year for reassurance. The following resource also provides practical, supportive advice for parents: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>.

We are sorry that we cannot give you more information at this stage and we hope you understand the reasons for this are beyond our control. Please rest assured we are working hard to ensure the best for our young people.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Jones	Ms McIver
Deputy Headteacher	Head of Sixth Form