



23rd March 2020 1.30pm

Dear Parents

Summer exams 2020

Further to our recent letter, I want to update you with regard to summer GCSE, Btec and A level examinations.

The government shared the following information on Friday 20th:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced>. They are committed to working with schools and exam boards to ensure that students have the opportunity to secure the best outcomes so that they can take next steps.

What this means for exam boards and schools:

- Regulators will develop and set out a process that will provide a calculated grade to each student which reflects their performance as fairly as possible, and will work with us and the other exam boards to ensure this is consistently applied for all students.
- Exam boards will be asking teachers, who know their students well, to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead.
- Teachers will be asked to take into account a range of evidence and data including performance on mock exams and non-exam assessment. Clear guidance on how to do this fairly and robustly will be provided to schools and colleges soon.
- Exam boards will then combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment, and use this information to produce a calculated grade for each student, which will be a best assessment of the work they have put in.
- The aim is to provide these calculated grades to students before the end of July.
- Students will be able to appeal their grades if they don't believe the right process has been followed.
- There will also be an option to sit exams early in the next academic year for any students who wish to – and students can also choose to sit exams next summer.

What this means for students:

- Students should continue to engage with revision materials and liaise with subject teachers where the subject has a controlled assessment component – coursework, orals etc.
- Students should make use of their student email address to keep in touch and to continue to ask questions.
- All students should continue to engage with the teaching and revision materials placed on DODDLE, Seneca etc. in case the student wants to challenge the grade and opt to do the examination later in the year.

These are exceptional and unprecedented times. While we recognise that this is undoubtedly going to cause concern you, please do not contact us about the public examinations, or about implications for university entry, because we simply do not have any information at this time. We will contact you again at the first opportunity when we have any further information from Ofqual, or from the examination boards.

Yours sincerely

Frances Walsh
Headteacher