



11th October 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

Re: Year 11 GCSEs Summer 2022

As you may be aware, the Department for Education and Ofqual (the body responsible for the awarding of qualifications) have released further information about how they plan to adapt the GCSEs and A Levels this year due to the disruption faced by students over the past two academic years. To avoid speculation, please see an outline of the latest guidance below.

Firstly, non-examined assessments (e.g. coursework) remain in place, however there are some contingencies in place in practical subjects to ensure students' results are not negatively impacted by any restrictions that were in place. In both GCSE and A level Art, students will be assessed on their portfolio only, with no examination tasks set. It is important to note that the speaking assessments in both English Language and Modern Foreign Languages will take place as normal.

It was also announced that in a small number of GCSE subjects (English Literature, History and Geography), there would be some reduction in the content that the students need to cover, with schools able to opt out of some small sections of the course. In other subjects, additional support will be offered to students, including formulae and equation sheets in GCSE Maths, Science and Physics.

At A level, the assessment of the Sciences will take in to account the lack of practical opportunities that some students have had because of Covid.

Additionally, in all GCSE and A Level subjects (except GCSE English Literature, History and Geography) advance information will be provided about the focus of the content in the exams. This will be provided to schools no later than 7th February 2022 and will enable staff and students to target their revision towards these particular topics in the final stages of their preparation for the examinations in the summer.

These measures will enable us as a school to best prepare our students to achieve highly this summer and to get the results which they deserve. We will, of course, continue with our usual teaching and exam preparation until further guidance is released. Individual subject teachers will be guiding students through the specific details of how this will impact our preparation as a school. The government will continue to review this situation and there may be further changes if the impact of the pandemic changes over the coming months and we will, of course, communicate any further updates to you as soon as we are made aware.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Morgan-Russell
Acting Deputy Head