

16 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

I am writing to you to give some further details on the way grades will be awarded for Year 11 and Year 13 students this academic year. Further guidance is expected soon from the exam boards regarding the grading of individual subjects but below I've outlined the key points of this process.

- The most important message is that we want to get the best possible grades for all our students in Year 11 and 13 that are fair and can be justified with the evidence we have.
- This is the second year we have been through the process of awarding grades in school, so our staff have experience in how to do this. These are Centre Assessed Grades not teacher-assessed grades and so staff are not allowed to discuss possible outcomes for individual students with families.
- Grades will be based on what students have been taught, not what they've missed. No new content will be taught going forward, students will revise and revisit past topics.
- Teachers have been given clear guidance to support them in assessing the students. They will use a range of evidence, which will include mock exams, coursework (if applicable) and other work completed as part the course, such as essays or in-class tests. The final grade will not be based solely on one piece of evidence.
- There will be in-class assessments happening in most subjects next term. These will include new sets of questions from the exam boards. The results of these will form part of the evidence used by teachers when awarding grades.
- We will submit the grades to the exam boards in mid-June. Staff will be making final judgements on grades just before the end of May. These will then be moderated and agreed by the school before being submitted
- BTECs and OCR Nationals will be graded in a very similar way. The only difference is with units that have already been graded (either through exams or coursework). Individual subject teachers will explain the subject specific details to students.
- Results Day for GCSE and A-Level will happen in the week of 9 August 2021

If you have not already – please ensure you have booked your parents evening appointments for tomorrow using the link sent via Parent App. We will be in touch again to confirm the arrangements for year 11 and year 13 after the May half-term and the final dates for students to be in school. Please get in touch if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



Mr B Corbett
Headteacher