

“To Know
To Care
To Live”

22 March 2021

Dear Student/Parent/Carer,

Important information about summer assessments

The Secretary of State for Education announced on 25th February that exam boards will ask centres to generate grades for each student. These will be teacher assessed grades. Unlike last year, these grades will be awarded on student knowledge and understanding: essentially, students' actual performance as evidenced in their work.

As a school, we have carefully considered the guidance and I am pleased to confirm that we are able to share details of how students will be assessed for the awarding of grades this summer. There may be very slight variation to some of the specific plans in individual courses when exam boards release full details at the end of March. Similarly, the approach between subjects may differ slightly due to their varying demands.

The Process

This process applies to all A Level courses with the exception of Art (see separate section) and all GCSEs.

Teachers will be considering a range of sources of evidence. These may include:

- 1) Mock exams undertaken at some point within the course across the two years
- 2) Non-exam assessments (NEAs)
- 3) Internal key assessments (Exam questions, essays etc)
- 4) Exam board sample assessments

The submission of grades to the relevant exam boards is 18/6/2021. Prior to this date, every grade for every student, must be rigorously quality assured and moderated to ensure the evidence presented to justify each grade, is robust. The time between now and the 18/6/2021, will be spent by students and teachers working hard to ensure that the evidence collected allows students to be awarded the fair grade they deserve.

Information for Art students (A Level Fine Art, Graphics and Textiles only)

In A Level Art courses, students will be assessed entirely on their portfolio of work. This includes their Personal Investigation which students have been working on since September 2020. This is a practical investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material (1000-3000 words).



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Grades

The current guidance states that schools or colleges cannot share with students the grades they submit to the exam board. However, we are able to share the grades and marks for specific pieces of work.

It is important to understand that all grades issued by teachers are provisional and indicative. They will then go through subject and school quality assurance and moderation and then potentially additional exam board moderation before grades are finalised. Students' final grades will be those issued by the exam boards.

Overview

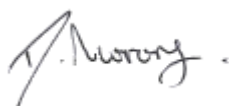
Week beginning	
15 th March	Departments map out the assessments to be used
17 th May	Last week of teaching
24 th May	Final assessment week/Subject moderation
7 th June – 18 th June	Internal Moderation of Grades
9 th August	A Level Results Day 10 th August GCSE Results Day 12 th August

We have not set a “leaving date” for students in Years 11 or 13 as yet. We are waiting for final guidance on this from the Department for Education but we will let you know as quickly as possible so you can plan your summer!

I would like to finally take this opportunity to say how impressed I have been with the way students have managed with the uncertainties they have faced this year. Students must now take full advantage of the support on offer and ensure they put the required work and effort in to demonstrate their highest possible performance to your teachers.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me or speak to your subject teacher.

Yours sincerely,



Darren Moroney
Deputy Headteacher

