

25 March 2021



Dear Parent/Carer,

We appreciate this may be an anxious time for our Y11 students and their families, with regards to the uncertainties around GCSE and BTEC awards.

Following the recently released details from the government (and in addition to our previous letter to you on this subject), we are writing to offer some further clarity and reassurance around the process of assessing and awarding GCSE grades.

Please find below a summary of the key points in awarding GCSE grades this summer:

- That pupils will be graded by teacher judgement, although this will involve a school and Trust quality assurance process, to ensure fairness and eliminate any potential bias.
- Pupils will only be assessed on what they have been taught.
- GCSE results can be based on evidence until our pupils' school leaving date, so they should continue to work hard.
- The process of deciding on grades will be left as late as possible to allow pupils time to prove what they are capable of. We do not expect to begin the process before **Monday 17 May**, at the earliest.
- There will be an exam series beginning on **Monday 26 April**. Pupils have been provided with exam timetables. For most subjects this (along with previously sat trial exams) will produce the bulk of the evidence used to award grades.
- We will publish, on the school website, a full overview of the evidence used in all GCSE subjects no later than **Friday 28 May**.
- Exam results day will be **Thursday 12 August** and we will ensure that pupils are fully supported, whatever the circumstances. This will include an appeals helpline.

Please be assured that we are working hard to ensure that the grades our pupils receive are a fair reflection of their ability and hard work.

We will continue to keep you informed as and when we receive any further information from the government. In the meantime, if you do have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,