

March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Awarding of GCSE grades Summer 2021**

As you may be aware Ofqual and the Department for Education (DfE) have recently published guidance on how GCSE grades will be awarded based on teacher assessment this summer. For GCSEs, teachers will assess the **standard** at which pupils are **performing based only on what they have been taught**, to enable the school to determine pupils' grades.

Teachers' judgements will be based on a range of evidence relating to the subject content that has been delivered. Teachers will use this evidence about pupil performance gathered throughout the various courses studied to inform their judgement and may include work already completed, mock exam results, in-class tests and any non-examined assessments. In addition, questions from exam boards, largely based on past papers may be used.

As part of our commitment to support our pupils, upon their return to school on 8 March 2021, teachers will continue to teach the content for their courses including consolidating knowledge and helping pupils prepare for the assessments. It is intended that in the vast majority of subjects, assessments will take place over the **summer term**. These will then form part of the evidence base that teachers will need to collate in order to award a grade. Any assessments undertaken will be under controlled conditions, with all pupils receiving notice of any assessments that will be carried out, in order to make sure all outcomes are fair.

It is vitally important that pupils keep engaged in their learning, attending school when it reopens and studying at home so that their work can be considered in their final grade. Ultimately the knowledge acquired will stand them in good stead for the next stage of their life. Once assessments have been finalised, teachers will notify pupils of the pieces of work that will count towards their grade, before submitting any final grades to the exam board. However, teachers will not inform pupils of their final grade, they will receive these on GCSE results day which will be held on 12 August 2021.

As ever, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

**Mr S Aziz**  
**Assistant Headteacher**