



March 2021

Update on Centre Assessed Grades for certificating students

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to update you with regards to the grading process this year for all certificating students. Our priority is to ensure your child receives their grades that are a fair reflection of their work and performance over the course of the subjects studied. We have put together our plan which we also share briefly with you in this letter.

We have based our plan and the information on the guidance provided by the DfE and Ofqual. There are some aspects that we are yet to receive regarding some qualifications and this is being prepared by examination boards to ensure a consistent approach across all schools.

Guidance from Ofqual indicates that we should aim to provide a wide base of evidence when finalising your child's grade, in this case, the first mock window which starts from Monday 15th March and a second assessment opportunity scheduled for after Easter which provides two assessment windows for your child to demonstrate their progress. We appreciate that for some students, the exam period can be an anxious experience, however, we must have these in place to provide a transparent and robust method to allow teachers to provide accurate grades. Therefore, students will be expected to conduct themselves in appropriate exam protocol and for those with access arrangements, to utilise this support. We would urge that you impress upon your child the absolute importance of these assessments and they do their very best. The mock exam timetable can be found on the TGAK website under the exam section and a copy has been shared with your child.

After the first mocks have been completed, we will share these grades with you once they have been moderated and quality assured. These grades will not be the final grades, but simply what your child attained in the mock exams. Teachers will then use this information to plan for gaps and areas to develop further in your child's lessons ready for the second assessment window.

The second assessment opportunity, shortly before May half term, will provide teachers to see if there is an opportunity to uplift and refine any grades. Teachers will use these assessments and a range of other evidence to finalise grades that are then to be submitted to the exam boards. Unfortunately, the guidance states we are not able to share the final centre assessed grades that will be submitted to exam boards. These grades will be checked at teacher, department, senior, executive and trust level before being submitted so rest assured that we have a clear and thorough quality assurance process.

Between the two assessment windows, we will be sharing with you and your child an outline of the evidence that subject staff will be taking into consideration during the grading process. It is important that we select evidence that adheres to the guidance given to us by Ofqual and the exam boards.

We will strive to provide you with the maximum amount of information that we can. We very much want this to be a process where you feel that we have been open and honest about the evidence

that we will be considering with regards to your child's performance. We will try to make it as clear as we can what evidence is considered by Ofqual to be valid. We do ask, however that you allow teachers and leaders, the time and space to make these important decisions. Due to the nature of this process, can I ask that any questions regarding this are directed to Mr. Shahzad or Miss. Ivery.

I have summarised the key dates below for you:

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| Y11 and Y13 Mock exams: | Week beginning Monday 15 th of March |
| Y11 Parent's evening: | Wednesday 31 st March 2021 |
| Second assessment window: | Week beginning 17 th of May 2021 |
| Centres assessed grades submitted: | Mid-June 2021 |
| Y13 results day: | Tuesday 10 th of August 2021 |
| Y11 results day: | Thursday 12 th of August 2021 |

We will keep you updated with any changes of where we currently are and next steps.

I thank you again for your patience and support during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. D. Turner
Executive Principal