



6 April 2020

## Awarding of GCSE and A Level Grades 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

As you may have seen, details were published on Friday of how grades will be awarded to students taking GCSEs and A Levels. Details for how vocational and technical qualifications will be awarded this summer will follow. Sally Collier, who leads Ofqual, the organisation which oversees exams and qualifications in this country has written to students and the letter can be found here:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877830/Letter\\_to\\_students\\_-\\_Summer\\_2020\\_grading.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877830/Letter_to_students_-_Summer_2020_grading.pdf)

Your child's teachers will provide assessed grades in each subject they are taking. These assessments will be based on what the teacher believes each student would have achieved had they sat exams this summer, and on a range of evidence. This will include:

- Students' classwork and bookwork, or performances in subjects like PE, music or drama
- Any non-exam assessment, whether or not completed
- The results of any assignments or mock exams
- Any previous exam results.

We have not been asked to set any additional homework or mock exams to make these assessed grades. Instead I would encourage you to support your child in their preparation for whatever route they intend to pursue post-16 and post 18.

Teachers will also be asked to rank students in order for each subject, so as to split students awarded the same grade. These assessed grades will be confidential and teachers will not be allowed to share these grades with students. We have been asked to send these grades to Ofqual by the end of May/start of June. Ofqual will then look at all the grades and decide what the final grades for each student in each subject should be. It is developing the model it will use to do this, so all grades are fair, but it expects to use a range of information to do this such as students' prior attainment and previous exam results at schools. Your child will get their final grades in the summer.

There will be an appeals process and Ofqual has also said that it is working with exam boards so that there is an opportunity, if necessary, for students to sit exams, if they would like to, in the autumn term. More information on that will follow.

Ofqual has said it would like to reassure you that the grades your child will get this summer will look exactly the same as in previous years, and will have equal status with universities, colleges and employers, so that young people can move forward in their lives as planned. Further information can be found here:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877842/Summer\\_2020\\_grades\\_for\\_GCSE\\_AS\\_A\\_level\\_EPQ\\_AEA\\_in\\_maths\\_-\\_guidance\\_for\\_teachers\\_students\\_parents.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf)

I hope this gives answers to questions you may have; we will be in touch with any further information once issued.

Yours faithfully

Andrew J Knowles  
Headteacher