



27th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

OFQUAL CONSULTATION ON QUALIFICATIONS TO BE AWARDED IN SUMMER 2021

As you are already aware, the government announced that students will not be sitting their examinations as planned in summer 2021. Ofqual (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) and the Department for Education have launched a joint consultation regarding the proposal of how to award grades.

As a school, we will be responding to the guidance that has been provided and putting forward the views of teachers. Once the results of the consultation are published we will have a clearer understanding of how final grades will be arrived at. In the meantime there are some key elements that I would like to share with you, so that you can support your child.

The consultation document proposes that **'grades this year should be based on teachers' assessments of the evidence of the standard at which their students are performing; it should indicate their demonstrated knowledge, understanding and skills'**.

It is likely therefore that our teachers will need to use a range of methods to gather the necessary evidence to support the grading of students. This evidence may come from classwork, homework and assessments. Teachers will want to be able to use pieces of work which showcases the knowledge and skills that a student is able to demonstrate. It is therefore really important that your son/daughter continues to engage in their learning and follows their timetable.

What can I do to support my son/daughter?

- Encourage attendance and active participation in online lessons.
- Ensure that any work set is submitted to teachers.
- Encourage your son/daughter to communicate with their class teacher if they need help or support.
- Support your son/daughter in maintaining a good routine whilst learning at home.
- Ensure they take regular screen breaks and eat healthily.

In order to assess your son/daughter's current progress, Year 11 and Year 13 will be sitting a series of assessments in their lessons over a designated week, as outlined below. Students will be set these assessments as part of their online learning. The assessments will need to be submitted for marking. Students will be given further details from their class teachers regarding the content and format of the assessments.

Year 13 assessment week: week beginning 8th February

Year 11 assessment week: week beginning 22nd February

Please share the contents of this letter with your son/daughter so that they understand the importance of continuing to work hard over the coming months. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Ana Neofitou
Headteacher