



5 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 11 return to school and 'Teacher Assessed Grades'**

We are excited to be welcoming all students back to the academy on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March for what will be an important last few months for our Year 11 students. We now have more clarity from the government of how students will be awarded their grades this summer, which I summarise below.

The most important thing now is that Year 11s come back to school focused and ready to demonstrate to their teachers exactly what they are capable of. Every lesson is an opportunity to secure their grade and the Study Hub will be open before and after-school, and at lunchtimes to support students' independent study. We will also be running intervention sessions to further prepare students for final assessments.

Our teachers are ready to award the best grades possible, taking into account the work that students have already completed and the work they will produce between now and June. It is business as usual on their return and the preparation for grades very much continues.

#### **Awarding Qualifications in Summer 2021**

- No externally assessed exams will take place
- Students will only be assessed on the content they have covered in the revised curriculum plans
- Schools will award grades based on a variety of different evidence. This includes:
  - Mock exams
  - Class work
  - Coursework
  - Informal assessment
  - Records of performance assessment in subjects such as music, PE and drama
- Grades will be more heavily weighted towards work that is completed most recently and up to June for both exam subjects and coursework subjects.
- Students will be sitting more assessments between now and June.
- Students working towards qualifications with coursework elements will continue to complete these units, or work towards an appropriate completion point.

The grades awarded by the school will be verified by the exam board, where they will look at students' work to ensure that grades are awarded fairly. Students will receive their grades on the national results day on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August**. We are not allowed to share grades with students before this date.

Earlier in the Spring Term, we shared plans to still have a full 'mock' exam window for students. We still intend to have an assessment window in the week before the Easter holiday. This will be a shorter assessment window than originally planned, typically assessing one element of each course for students. Year 11 will then have a longer internal assessment window in May/June where final assessments will be completed.

As such, **students should ensure they are available to be in school up to June 18<sup>th</sup>**. Students will be given clear areas to focus their revision on, and over the coming weeks teachers will be preparing students so that they are ready to complete assessments to the best of their ability in the March assessment window.

We look forward to working with all of our students and parents to ensure the very best possible outcomes for all.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J Saunders .". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jonathan Saunders  
Assistant Principal