

3 April 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers of Years 11

### **Ofqual Announcement**

You may have heard the recent announcement regarding the awarding of qualifications for this summer's examination series.

Ofqual, the regulator for exams, has now announced how the process will work for this summer's examination results so I wanted to make sure that you heard from me today so that you understood how grades will be awarded to students this summer.

Teachers will provide assessed grades for students in each subject they are taking. These will be based on what the teacher believed each student would have achieved had they sat exams this summer. They will base their assessment on classwork (including performances for PE, music, drama), mock examinations, assignments and previous exam results, where appropriate.

It is important for you to know that students will not be asked for any additional homework or mock exams to inform these grades. **However, it is important that students continue to prepare for their next step and we will continue to set work most appropriate for students to continue learning and preparing for September. We will be working with colleges and universities to do this.**

It is important to let you know that Ofqual has told us that these assessed grades need to be confidential and **teachers will not be allowed to share these grades with students. Therefore, please do not ask us for these grades.** We have been asked to send them directly to Ofqual in June.

Ofqual will then look at all the grades and decide what the final grades for each student in each subject should be. They are working hard to make sure grades are fair, and they are likely to use a range of information to do this.

You will get their final grades in the summer. Ofqual has said that results will be provided no later than the planned results day, in August, but they are aiming to provide grades earlier. This is pleasing as we all realise that the sooner you know, the better. I will let you know when I hear more about this.

When the grades are issued, if you think that the grade doesn't reflect accurately what you would have been awarded, you can appeal the decision in certain circumstances. Ofqual has also said that they are working with exam boards so that there is an opportunity, if possible, for students to sit exams, if they would like to later this year, after schools return. More information on that will follow, and I will share that when it is available from Ofqual.

These are unusual circumstances for us all. I hope that I have been able to provide some level of certainty of how the process will work this summer for your exam grades. Ofqual has said they would like to reassure you that the grades you 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 you can move forward in your lives as you have planned.

If you have any questions, please use the Contact Us page on the academy website to get in touch.

The most important thing for you all to do at this time is stay safe. Please be assured that we are doing our best to make sure this is right for you.

Yours faithfully



Darren Smith  
**Principal**