



Headteacher: Mr H Kutty BA Hons

11 November 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian,

GCSE Assessments 2022

We have, today, received information about the arrangements for this coming summer's GCSE assessments and I have emailed all year 11s with information about the approach being taken by Ofqual, the GCSE exams regulator in England.

I have sent your child a link to a letter from Dr Jo Saxton, Chief Regulator that can be found at the following website:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letters-arrangements-for-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/letter-to-students>

The letter sets out the plans for exams and the arrangements that will be put in place if exams are cancelled. It is extremely unlikely that GCSEs will be cancelled this year and even if they are, the alternative would be teacher assessed grades (TAGs) which would be based upon students' performance in exam assessments held at school.

Adjustments to exams

There are some adjustments being made to exams following the disruption young people experienced during national lockdowns. These are subject specific but include things like formula sheets in science and maths or a reduction in the range of topics that will be assessed. Because these are specific to each subject, your child's teacher will talk them through the adjustments in each subject.

Adjustments to vocational courses

Vocational courses (BTECs, Cambridge Nationals etc.) have already been adjusted for this year and, if your child is studying a vocational course, they are working towards the adjusted assessments right now.

Teacher Assessed Grades

As a precaution, teachers have been asked to collect evidence from which teacher assessed grades (TAGs) could be decided if the summer exams don't go ahead. Whilst next week's mocks are a very useful indicator of the grade your child is working at now, we know they will make lots of progress over the next six months so assessments taken closer to the summer will give us a much better evidence base from which to decide grades, in the very unlikely event that GCSE exams are cancelled.

If you have any questions about the GCSEs or the information in the linked letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address below.

Best wishes.
Yours sincerely

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