



2nd February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday 10th February we will be holding the Year 11 Virtual Parents' Evening. Thank you to all who have booked their appointments; there is still time to book if you haven't. Thank you in advance for attending this important evening.

This letter aims to answer any preliminary questions you may have. This will allow maximum time with your child's teacher to discuss their current progress.

Forecast Grades

As you may be aware Ofqual is currently consulting on how GCSE grades will be awarded this year. It has been proposed to use teachers' judgement of students' grades based on a wide variety of evidence. It has also been proposed that some evidence will be from externally set assessments that will be taken in school. The proposal is that these will be moderated, and quality assured both by school and the exam board. It is also proposed that there will be no algorithm used to determine grades and that the date for submission of grades will be made as late as possible.

It is important to note that these are only proposals and extensive consultation is ongoing. Given that there has been no confirmation of the process, we are not currently able to provide forecasted GCSE grades.

As soon as we have received the outcome of the consultation, we will provide further details.

Parents' Evening

Traditionally at Year 11 Parents' Evening, subject teachers can forecast a likely GCSE grade. Given the circumstances, this will not be possible this year. Subject teachers will confirm judgements on any assessments already completed but will not be able to forecast how these may translate into a final grade.

The evening does provide an important opportunity for feedback on progress of knowledge and skills within each subject, including via remote learning, Subject teachers can also provide specific targets for improvement.



Mock Exams in March: postponed

Due to the current uncertainty on how long the school closure will last, the additional Mock exams scheduled for March have been postponed.

Following the outcome of the consultation, we will inform you of any assessments that will take place and how best to prepare for each one.

Underpinning this approach is Ofqual's current advice to students:

"Please continue to engage as fully as you can in your education. That will be online for the majority of students, or face-to-face for those students still going into school.....This will put you in the best position, whatever arrangements are made for your qualifications. It's important that teachers and students can focus on the knowledge and skills needed to equip students to progress to the next stage, whatever form that might take – whether to college, an apprenticeship, university or employment."

We will continue to ensure that students have the best quality of provision possible and that they are well supported over the coming weeks.

Next Wednesday from 4pm please use the following link to see a pre-recorded message from myself welcoming you to Parents Evening.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YTlhNDBmYWEtNGVINi00NmViLWlwOGItMDhiYihlYTg2Mmlw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22tid%22%3a%222884004d-601c-4e28-bb41-e130fffd344%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2286d840a6-a3d8-49b3-8dd5-82b4b83e2beb%22%2c%22isBroadcastMeeting%22%3a%22true%7d

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

H Pardoe

Mrs H Pardoe

Associate Assistant Headteacher- Head of Year 11