



Dear Parents, Carers and Students

5 January 2021

Re: Year 11 Exams

As you are no doubt aware, the Prime Minister mentioned that GCSE exams 'cannot take place as normal' this year in his address last night.

We are still awaiting details as to what will be put in place instead, but I wanted to write to you to explain the following:

- There will be some form of system for awarding grades
- It may be that there are specific assessments to be completed (similar to the old coursework system)
- It may be that grades are awarded based on Centre Assessed Grades as happened in 2020
- It may be that there is a mix of assessments and Centre Assessed Grades

Whichever system is applied, it is very likely that schools will be asked to provide evidence for the grades awarded such as mock exam results, termly assessments, in class assessments and work completed online during this lockdown.

Therefore, I wanted to write to you to make it clear that it is vital that Year 11 students do not 'give up' on their education simply because the formal exams may not take place in some or all subjects. The work produced during this term's lockdown and on the return to school is likely to be a crucial element in the evidence for awarding grades in the summer.

Year 11 need to ensure that they are logged on to Google Classroom and following their timetable of subjects. They also need to ensure that they are submitting all tasks that they complete so that teachers can mark the work and give feedback about how to improve on a regular basis.

Year 11 should use the live lesson element of online teaching to ask questions if they need help. They can also direct message subject teachers via Google Classroom or via the school email system.

You can access your child's timetable via the Portal – please note that lessons will follow the 'preCovid timings' as detailed in the letter about online learning sent to all parents.

If you or your child has any questions, please contact the subject teacher in the first instance, as they will be best placed to support. I have asked teachers and tutors to keep myself and parents informed if students are not engaging with the online learning as it is so important to ensure that we have this evidence for grades if required.



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We look forward to welcoming students back to school as soon as possible. In the meantime, I would reiterate the importance of Year 11 engaging with the online learning to ensure they can be awarded the grade they deserve.

Yours faithfully

Lynda Bevan
Deputy Headteacher

