

3 April 2020

Dear Year 11 student,

Year 11 Update – GCSEs

Please find below a letter from school which follows an announcement today by examinations regulator Ofqual. A letter from Ofqual to each student is also included [here](#).

Examination Grades for GCSE

We have now received some further guidance on how we are to prepare and submit student's grades, following the cancellation of this summer's examinations. Please note that at this stage we have received no guidance on vocational qualifications for Year 11 students.

The grades will initially be produced by the staff in school. As previously stated, the intention of Ofqual is to ensure that the final results reflect the grades that each student would have been most likely to achieve, had the examinations gone ahead.

The school results, for the whole year group, will then be submitted to the examination boards. It will then be for the examination boards to make the final judgements and issue the results. It is clear that the examination boards retain the control of the final grades and they can amend (up or down) the results submitted by the school should they consider them to be inaccurate or statistically out of line with national or local/school figures.

Please note from previous correspondence the key points below:

- The priority is ensuring that you can move on to Sixth Form courses, an apprenticeship, employment and training, or college place.
- We will be supporting students from Year 11 moving into our Sixth Form with transition materials to make sure they are in the best place possible to do well with their further studies.

Once the grades are awarded there will be the chance to appeal the grade if you think it is wrong. You will probably need to take an examination when schools have re-opened, should you wish to appeal.

Communications with School Regarding Examination Results

The process of awarding grades must proceed as directed by Ofqual.

Individual teachers and other school colleagues are not allowed to engage with students or parents/carers whilst this process is taking place. In addition, the school's grading of students will not be shared with students or family members. The integrity of the examinations system needs to be maintained, so please do not make contact with any member of staff at this time as colleagues are instructed to not respond.

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Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance

While the vast majority of Year 11 students have already identified their projected destination(s) for Year 12 (school, college, apprenticeship, employment), there are still a minority who have not. It is important that students have a back-up, or a contingency plan. The school careers advisors who usually provide one-to-one, face-to-face contact will be targeting the students who remain unsure about their next steps. This communication will take place via email and, hence, it is important that your son/ward looks out for emails from the Education Development Trust as well as the Hounslow Connexions service.

Additional links and newsletters about next steps will be sent directly to students via email. For example, visit Target Careers [here](#).

For those of you thinking about going to university after Sixth Form, do spend some time thinking about what you might want to do. UCAS (The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) is a great place to search the opportunities for higher education. You can access their site [here](#).

Have a good holiday and keep well!

Yours sincerely,



Euan Ferguson
Headteacher

