

30th April 2021

Dear parents/carers

I have been delighted to see the energy and focus our Year 11 students have shown since returning to school. As you will know, teachers will determine their GCSE grades this year, after exams were cancelled because of the pandemic.

In preparing for this task we have carefully considered the guidance from Ofqual and exam boards, as well as our own experience of grading students last year. We have developed a thorough process designed to enable our students to get the grades they merit and progress to their next stage of study, training or work.

In line with the guidance, students' grades will be based on a range of evidence including mock exams and written assessment, non-exam assessment and coursework, homework and classwork completed during their course. We will tell them what evidence we have used. Please be assured that we recognise some students may have missed more school than others, because of the pandemic, and we will only be considering their performance on the content they have been taught.

All grades will be reviewed within subject departments, across school and with other academies in CORE Education Trust, to check grade standards have been applied consistently. I will sign them off before they are submitted to the exam boards by Friday 18th June, who will then carry out their own processes to verify the grades. Final results will be issued on Thursday 12th August.

I understand you may have questions about the grading process. [The Joint Council for Qualifications – the body that represents the exam boards – has published a summary for students and their parents, which is linked to here](#). Alternatively, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's form teacher, head of year or [Miss Chudasama](#).

Our overriding priority is to support our students to move on successfully in their lives.

Kind regards



Mr J Barton

Head of School