



Dear Year 11 and Year 13 Students

Year 11 and Year 13 Awarding Grades

I hope this letter finds you well and that you have started to settle back into school life. Many of your teachers have told me how impressed they have been with the way in which you have returned to school and the way you are working in lessons. Well done. Remember, if you haven't got back into a good working ethos then there is still time. As I said to you in September, effort is everything.

The purpose of this letter is to update you on a number of matters relating to the process for awarding grades. This follows the video message that I sent to you on 4th March. In that video, I told you that this was an unfolding picture and that I would update you as we know more about it happening. In this letter, I will set out what will happen in your remaining time in school and I will ask list some key information that you should be aware of.

What will happen for your remaining time in school?

Fortnight beginning 8th March: (this is the fortnight that has just finished)

- Subjects have continued to teach their planned curriculum, using assessment to understand gaps in knowledge in skills and adjusting teaching to address them.
- If subjects are planning to run timed assessments under test conditions during the next fortnight, then they will have used lesson time to help you prepare for these.

Fortnight beginning 22nd March

- Subjects will continue to teach their planned curriculum, ensuring that they cover the content that you will be assessed on in the remaining weeks in school.
- During this fortnight, some subjects will be running timed assessments under test conditions in lessons that they intend to use as evidence to inform the grade they will award.
- Subjects will also tell you what assessments will take place after Easter and what they can do to prepare for those assessments. Our intention is that this information will be sent to parents as well.

Fortnight beginning 5th April. Easter Holiday. As well as, hopefully, being able to have some opportunities to see family and friends as society starts to open up; you will be able to use this time to revise and prepare for their assessments after Easter.

Week beginning 19th April. There will be no timed assessments under test conditions during this week. Subjects will continue to teach their planned curriculum and help you prepare for any assessments that will take place in the next fortnight.

Fortnight beginning 26th April. Subjects will continue to teach their planned curriculum. During some lessons, you will take the timed assessments under test conditions that you have been preparing for.

Week beginning 10th May. There will be no timed assessments under test conditions during this week. Subjects will continue to teach their planned curriculum and help you to prepare for any assessments that will take place in the next fortnight.

Fortnight beginning 17th May. Subjects will continue to teach their planned curriculum. During some lessons, students will take the timed assessments under test conditions that they have been preparing for.

Friday 28th May will be the last day in school for all Year 11 and Year 13 students. There will be no more compulsory lessons after this.

Week beginning 31st May. Half Term Holiday

Week beginning 7th June. Students who have missed timed assessments because of the pandemic may be invited into school to take the assessment if the teacher thinks this would be helpful to them. During this half term, there will also be induction opportunities for students in Year 11 who are joining our Sixth Form in September 2021. We will write to you separately about this.

Other key information you should be aware of

The way in which we are going to work was set out to you in the video on March 4th. Most of your questions will be answered in this. However, I have set some new information below

- **Your teacher will not be giving you any more predicted grades.** You have already been given your final predicted grade. For Year 11 this was in January, for Year 13 this was in March. Your teacher is not able to tell you what grade you will be awarded. However, your teacher will talk to you if they are concerned that you are not on track to achieve at least your predicted grade.
- **Your teacher will tell you if an assessment that they do is intended to be used as part of the evidence that they use.** As well as this new evidence, your teacher will also be using a range of work you have completed throughout the course. This may include end of unit/topic tests or assessments/exams you have taken. Your teacher will talk to you about the types of evidence that they are going to use but you do need to be aware that Ofqual have set out that this is not something students or parents can negotiate with teachers.
- **When you have completed an assessment, your teacher will tell you how well you did once they have marked it.** This might be a grade or a mark. It will depend on the process the subjects are using. However, you should remember that this does not mean that this will be your final grade. Your final grade will be your teacher's holistic judgement of your performance on a range of evidence.
- **Students who normally have access arrangements in place to help them in exams (such as Extra Time) will still get these.** All the normal access arrangements will still be in place. We are writing separately to parents and to explain how this will work.
- **School will finish for Year 11 and Year 13 on 28th May, however,** your teacher may invite you in to take an assessment if you missed one because of the pandemic. We will also write to you separately to set out what induction arrangements will be in place following the 28th May for students who are joining the Sixth Form in September 2021
- **We do not know if there will be an opportunity for a leaving assembly/shirt signing when you leave school.** We will need to see what Covid-19 Control Measures are in place at the time. Please understand that our priority at the moment is to make sure that we make sure that the process for awarding grades is in place. We will do what we can to make sure you

have an opportunity to celebrate the end of Year 11 and Year 13 but at this stage, it would be wrong of me to promise anything.

- **Year 13 Results will be issued by the exam boards on the 10th August and for Year 11 on the 12th August.** We will be in touch with further details on how these days will work nearer the time.

Please remember that throughout this time we are all here to help. If you have any questions or are worried about anything then please do talk to someone in school. If you work hard in lessons, complete your homework to the best of your ability and prepare for assessments thoroughly you will be fine. This has been a difficult year for you but we are all determined to ensure that you achieve the grade that you deserve and that will allow you to progress onto the next stage of education/employment.

Please look after yourself and look after each other.

Mr George

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mr George'.

Head Teacher