

BET/ZEVS

26 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Assessment for Summer Examination Series, 2021

Yesterday Ofqual, the exams regulator, announced the outcome of the consultation on assessment for GCSEs and A Levels this summer. As I stated in my letter earlier this week, we will now carefully consider this guidance before publishing our proposals for how students will continue to be assessed. The key message for all students is that they should continue to work as hard as they can as assessments between now and the submission of results could be included as evidence towards a final grade.

I have outlined below a summary of the key outcomes of the consultation. We will need to interpret and adopt these outcomes, but for clarity I have simply lifted the text below from the original document. There is also a nice summary of the consultation, aimed at students, available [here](#).

Consultation Outcome

Assessment:

- Teachers must assess their students' performance, only on what content has been delivered to them by their teachers, to determine the grade each student should receive.
- Teachers can use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform their judgement.
- Teachers should determine the grades as late in the academic year as is practicable, and not confined to a defined window, to enable teaching to continue for as long as possible.
- Schools and colleges should use a broad range of evidence across the taught content to determine the grades before submitting the grades to the exam boards.
- Heads of centres will have to confirm that students have been taught sufficient content to allow progression to the next stage of their education.
- Students should continue to work on their non-exam assessment (NEA), including for Project qualifications. NEA will be marked by teachers and will contribute to the overall grade, whether or not it has been completed.
- Overall, it will be no easier or harder for a student to achieve a particular grade this year compared to previous years.



Quality Assurance:

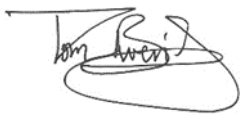
- Exam boards will put in place quality assurance arrangements to make sure consistent judgements are being made and heads of centre will sign off all grades.
- Exam boards will also ask schools to confirm that they have followed the correct procedure for determining grades.

Appeals and Results:

- Students will be able to appeal their grade.
- A student who is unhappy with their grade will first ask their centre to check whether an administrative or procedural error had been made.
- Where a centre does identify an error in the grade submitted to the exam board, it can submit a revised grade and a rationale for the board to consider. If the exam board is satisfied with the rationale, it will issue a revised grade.
- Where a centre does not believe an error had been made, a student can ask the centre to appeal to the exam board on their behalf. The centre will submit the student's appeal to the exam board and provide the evidence on which its judgement had been made; the exam board will consider whether, in its view, the grade reflected an appropriate exercise of academic judgement.
- If the exam board decides the grade is supported by the evidence it will not change the grade. If the exam board judges that it did not, it will determine the grade that the evidence would support. A student's grade could go up OR down following an appeal.
- Results days will be on 10 August for AS and A level, and 12 August for GCSE results.

We fully understand that the uncertainty of this time will be putting significant strain on our students. We are determined to support them all through this period to enable them to get the strongest outcomes they are capable of.

Yours faithfully



Mr T Beveridge
Headteacher