

26th February 2021

GCSE Assessment 2021

For GCSEs, teachers will assess the standard at which you are performing based only on what you have been taught so that your school or college can determine your grade. Teachers' judgements will be based on a range of evidence relating to the subject content that you have been taught, either in the classroom or via remote learning.

Your teachers will be able to use evidence about your performance gathered throughout your course to inform their judgement. This might include work that you have already completed, mock exam results, homework or in-class tests. Your teachers may also use questions from exam boards, largely based on past papers, to help assess you, but this won't be compulsory.

The arrangements for this year are designed so that teaching and learning can continue for as long as possible, so your teachers' judgement of your work should take place as late in the academic year as is practical. It's important that you keep engaged in your learning and study as long as possible so that your hard work can be considered in your grade. And it will stand you in good stead for the next stage of your life. Teachers will tell you which pieces of work will count towards your grade, before your grade is submitted to the exam board.

We know that some of you may be worried that you have not covered all the content for a particular subject. There is not a set requirements about the minimum amount of content that should be taught or assessed, but as the head of school I wish to ensure that you have been taught enough content so that you can progress to the next stage of your education.

Please continue to work on your non-exam assessment (NEA) work or coursework, including for Project qualifications, wherever possible. We know that for some of you, this will be more difficult, especially if you need the specialist equipment. Teachers will mark your NEA and it will contribute to your overall grade, whether or not it has been completed.

For GCSE art and design, your grade will be based on your portfolio only, whether or not you have finished it. And for GCSE English language, GCSE modern foreign languages we will submit a separate grade or result for the spoken language or practical skills tested, based on work that you have completed.

As outlined in the first paragraph ‘teachers’ judgements will be based on a range of evidence relating to the subject content that you have been taught, either in the classroom or via remote learning.’ Therefore it is imperative that over the next term you complete as much work to the highest possible standard in order for us to justifiably evidence your submitted grades in the summer. Please let me be clear, **without the evidence there will be no grade to enter.**

Nothing is impossible, the word itself says “I’m possible”! -- Audrey Hepburn

Kind regards



Iain Thomas
Acting Headteacher