



**Year 11 parent update – GCSE grading 2021**

30<sup>th</sup> of April

Dear Parents,

I am writing to update you on the grading process. The Year 11 final assessments are well underway, following the schedule we published last term, and the students are working hard. Thanks for the support and encouragement you are providing at home.

We have now completed and submitted our Centre Policy for the 2021 process. This is a large document which gives very detailed information about a wide range of areas. You are under no obligation to read it but you are very welcome to – it will be made available on the school website this week.

In the week beginning the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, all subjects/departments will give students an overview of the evidence being used to assess them in each subject (e.g. mock exams, coursework, end of year assessments...). We always aim to use consistent evidence – so every student's grade is decided using a similar set of evidence to other students in that subject. It is essential that students know which evidence is being used to grade them. Students will then be asked to sign a declaration for each subject, confirming that they understand which evidence is being used: this declaration also gives students an opportunity to raise any concerns they may have (for example, access arrangements not being in place) at this point so we can resolve those issues.

Please note that the final centre grade is not simply a mathematical average of all of the evidence in a student's portfolio: we are asked to give what the regulators call a 'holistic' view of the grade the student is able to work at ([worked examples here if you are interested](#)).

We are not permitted to share the final centre grade with students/families until results day on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August - sharing overall grades before this date would be considered malpractice. However, staff can now give students an idea of how they are performing in individual assessments. This may be a percentage rather than a precise grade, but students will have some idea of how well they are doing as each assessment is marked and moderated.

More information will be sent to you when the students are being given the specific information about the assessment portfolios and declarations.

Best wishes until then,

Joe Curtis  
Assistant Headteacher