

Dear Parents/Carers

19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Update: Centre-Assessed Grades summer 2021 (CAGs)**

We hope that you are well.

We wrote to you earlier in March regarding grading arrangements this summer. Many parents thanked us for the early details we provided and a few have sought more details. This letter provides you additional information about the process we will be using.

**Fairness and accuracy**

As we notified you previously, we plan to ensure that all students are assessed accurately and fairly in all subjects, taking into account the huge disruption they have experienced. We will make an allowance for all students when determining their Centre-Assessed Grade – they have all faced the challenge of accessing learning remotely, of subject content having to be missed out due to time out of school and of lost learning time.

A number of students have faced additional challenges such as having to be absent from school due to Covid-19 (identified as a close contact or having the virus) or another Covid-19-related disruption. Of course, we will take this into account, too, when assessing grades.

As well as these factors, some of our students complete their studies with the additional challenge of SEND. This is a factor for which we will make reasonable adjustments in our process.

**Clear approach**

As noted in the earlier letter, our approach to determining CAGs will be based on:

- Use of a wide range of assessment evidence for students gathered during the course of study, including mock exams, coursework and other teacher assessments to provide a fair reflection of students' performance
- Previous assessment and progress data that has been reported to students and to parents/carers so that there is openness
- A further two assessment opportunities for students to allow us to measure current performance
- Use of exam materials and mark schemes provided by the exam boards in these two assessment opportunities, in the same way that we have done in the earlier assessments, to ensure that we are measuring fairly against other students in other schools across the country
- Moderation of assessments across schools to support accuracy and fairness of assessment
- Trust scrutiny of this approach to provide a seal of approval

To be clear, no single assessment will determine the CAG for any subject your child is studying. Nor will the CAG rely on a single teacher's decision. The grades from these final assessments cannot be shared with students for a number of reasons including the fact that marks must be moderated

**LEAP**

Part of the  
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within school and across the Trust. However, marks and areas for improvement will be shared from the first assessments to help them prepare for the second assessments.

The government expects that the CAGs submitted to exam boards will be a result of teachers' reasonable professional judgements and that there will be robust checking processes in place to make the submitted grade fair and accurate. This is exactly what we have put in place.

### Support

We are also expected to have in place an Appeals process, in case of any issues arising out of the summer results. We are drafting this document and it will be provided to you in good time.

To avoid issues arising later, though, we will ask students to confirm for us:

- If they have had any additional assistance that school is not aware of with any assessed work during the course of study
- If they have experienced any other difficulty during the course of study that we are not aware of that may have affected their performance

As ever, we are grateful to you for your tremendous support. These final weeks of exam courses offer the opportunity for students to demonstrate their current levels of knowledge and understanding. We will use this evidence alongside other assessments and the Trust approach to grading that is outlined in the bullet points above.

With best wishes



Ms R Staples  
Principal



Mr W Barsby  
Chief Executive

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