

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021

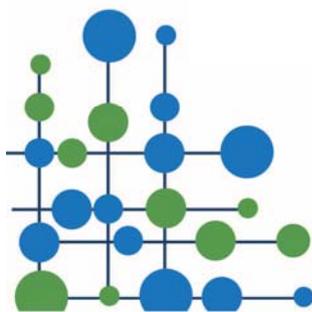
Dear Parent/Carer,

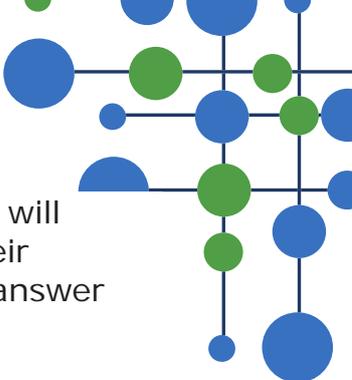
I hope you and your family are well. You may be aware that the Department for Education (DfE) have shared information regarding GCSE exams for 2022. Their plan is for students to sit their exams during the summer season, with possible changes made to the content assessed in each subject. For subjects that have not already been changed, the DfE and exam boards will share the amendments by early February 2022. Until this time, schools have been asked to continue to cover the full curriculum.

If the DfE decide it is not safe for students to complete the summer season of exams due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they have proposed to use Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs), in line with the system used this year. The following link provides information of the proposals and the consultation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/contingency-arrangements-gcse-as-a-level-project-and-aea/contingency-arrangements-gcse-as-a-level-project-and-aea>

Although at this stage we cannot guarantee how students will be assessed, the TAG process has been shared as a contingency for 2022. Therefore we will continue to help students prepare for the full season of 'normal' summer exams, but need to be mindful that these contingencies are in place and therefore ensure students are ready for whatever eventuality occurs.

The only immediate change is to bring forward our mock exams due to take place just after Christmas. Students will still complete assessments, however they will take place next half term and before Christmas, from Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.





As soon as the outcome of the consultation has been shared, we will inform you and your child of the new dates and the format of their assessments. We will also invite you to a MS Teams meeting to answer any questions you may have.

Whilst we would rather be moving through a 'normal' year, we all know that the world is still anything but that. I hope you understand that we need to respond to the proposed changes in order to ensure that your child is prepared for the DfE's final decision about summer examinations. Please rest assured that any work your child has already completed in preparation for their exams will not be wasted. Teachers will use the time leading up to the all assessments to students prepare both in lessons and at home.

In the meantime, please encourage your child to keep working hard, being nice and ask for any support that he or she might need.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Burton  
**Headteacher**