



23 March 2020

Dear parents and year 11 students,

Late on Friday, the Government released a statement in relation to Year 11 examinations, (please see the link below).

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced?utm_source=96f31727-1fb9-408b-a7fa-d91d4ceaeb6b&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Here are the main points:

- Regulators will develop and set out a process that will provide a calculated grade to each student, which reflects their performance as fairly as possible, and will work with us and the exam boards to ensure this is consistently applied for all students.
- Exam boards will be asking teachers, who know their students well, to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead.
- To produce this, teachers will be asked to take into account a range of evidence and data including performance on mock exams and non-exam assessment. Clear guidance on how to do this fairly and robustly will be provided to schools and colleges soon.
- Exam boards will then combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment, and use this information to produce a calculated grade for each student, which will be a best assessment of the work they have put in.
- Regulators and exam boards will be discussing with teachers' representatives before finalising the approach, to ensure that it is as fair as possible. More information will be provided as soon as possible.
- The aim is to provide these calculated grades to students before the end of July.
- These grades will be indistinguishable from those provided in other years.
- They will also aim to ensure that the distribution of grades follows a similar pattern to that in other years, so that this year's students are not disadvantaged.
- Students will be able to appeal their grades if they do not believe the right process has been followed.
- There will also be an option to sit exams early in the next academic year for any students who wish to, and students can also choose to sit exams next summer.

It is therefore imperative that students continue to complete the work set by their teachers, especially for English, Maths and Science. Not only will this help them when sitting exams early next academic year, it will also ensure they do not fall further behind before embarking upon their post 16 pathway in September.

Further information in a FAQ format can be found using the following link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

We will of course share further information as and when we receive it. Over the next couple of weeks, I will be working with teachers to ensure predicted grades are as accurate as they can be. Until this process is complete and all data is validated, we will not be in a position to share final predictions and as such, Go 4 Schools will be temporarily blocked for Year 11 students until further notice.

This is not the way we wanted this year to finish: we know students have worked incredibly hard and were looking forward to events such as the leavers' assembly, prom and results day. Whilst further detail may not be available for some time, it is our intention to hold these events where possible later on in the year to ensure that no student misses out.

Kind regards,



Simon Leach
Deputy Headteacher