



HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Brake Lane, Hagley, Worcestershire DY8 2XL

Phone: 01562 883193 Fax: 01562 881820

Website: www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk

Principal: Mr J Hodgson



Archdiocese of Birmingham

"Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

24 March 2020

Dear parents/carers and students of Year 11 and 13

I do hope you all continue to remain well. So much has changed since I last wrote or spoke with you and last week seems like a lifetime away.

However, in that time further information and guidance has come out about examinations and qualifications, and how grades will be awarded. Full details of this announcement can be found [here](#).

In summary:

- Ofqual 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 exam boards to ensure this is consistently applied for all students across the country.
- Exam boards will be asking subject teachers to submit their professional 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-examined assessment (coursework). Clear guidance on how to do this fairly and robustly will be provided to schools shortly.
- Exam boards will combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment, and then produce a calculated grade for each student.
- The aim is to provide these calculated grades to students before the end of July.
- The grades will be indistinguishable from those provided in other years and the distribution of grades will follow a similar pattern to that in other years, so this year's students aren't unfairly disadvantaged.
- There will also be an option to sit exams early in the next academic year (Autumn term) for any students who wish to, and students can also choose to sit exams in summer 2021.

Some of the Exam boards have also provided information for you and you can find info accordingly by clicking on the relevant exam board link below:

- [OCR](#)
- [AQA](#)
- [EDEXCEL](#)
- [WJEC](#)

We hope that this will provide some reassurance to you that students will be awarded grades this summer and these will enable them to progress onto the next phase of their learning journey. Guidance regarding how grades will be awarded for students who have studied qualifications other than GCSEs or A Levels, such as BTECs, will be announced by the DFE in due course.

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We will keep you informed with any further updates as they happen and would like you to be assured that we have a large amount of data regarding student performance and will use this in a fair, highly accurate and robust manner.

Whilst I am sure it goes without saying, we would like to state that we will not be able to enter into discussion about grades with either students or parents until these grades are published.

If you do have any work, books, folder or coursework at home please keep these for now just in case any of it is called for as evidence to support the awarding of student grades.

Year 11 students will also get further communication and information about Sixth Form Study bridging tasks that will be set after Easter to begin the preparation for Level 3 and A Level study.

In the meantime, please continue to stay safe and well.

With every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Hodgson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

J Hodgson
Principal