



17<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parent/Student,

I hope you are all well and safe. I am writing to you to keep you abreast of the recent updates from the exam regulator concerning exam grade awards as a result of the Summers exam season being cancelled. Ofqual and the examination boards have now established how they will be allocating grades. Information for parents from the Department for Education available here;

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/878869/Summer\_2020 grades for GCSE AS A level EPQ AEA in maths - guidance for teachers students parents UPDATED 09APR2020.pdf

Ofqual have also produced a video for students to make the process clear and accessible. The link is below;

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=VXuDOrtJY1Q&feature=youtu.be

Schools are being asked to use a range of assessment data in order to allocate grades which would represent the student's trajectory at the point of closure. In addition, schools have also been asked to rank order the students within each grade.

Heads of department have now been asked to work with their teams to provide a judgement about the grade that each student was most likely to have achieved, if they had taken their exams this summer 2020. To do this, they will take account of all available evidence including school and college records, mock exams, and non-exam assessment (NEA) that a student has undertaken.

However, Ofqual have stated that these grades provided by the School will not necessarily be the final result as they will need to also take into account previous spread of grades at National level to ensure results are not significantly out of kilter with previous years. At this stage, the exam boards will also consider prior student attainment (KS2 SATs for Year 11 and GCSE results for Year 13) as well as prior school results.

The exam boards have also been clear that parents/students **should not be informed of provisional grades** as these are subject to change and leaking of grades could compromise the Schools integrity as an exam centre. The School therefore will not, in line with the guidance and in the same way as all other schools nationally, be indicating grades awarded to students.

Upon receiving grades in the summer, Ofqual have stated that students will have an opportunity to sit the exams later in the year if they are not happy with their grade. As a result, students are encouraged to finish their courses where possible.

To summarise:

1) Teaching staff cannot give out any information regarding final outcomes.

2) Any work needed to complete courses should be undertaken where possible in the event that an exam is to be taken.

I hope this gives parents and students a clear outline of what to expect moving forward. Please be aware that both the Year 13 and Year 11 results dates (13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of August 20 respectively) will remain the same as originally listed prior to the coronavirus outbreak. We will update you as to how these days will operate when we have a clearer idea of the status of social distancing and lockdown procedures later in the year.

Yours faithfully

Mr Glover Assistant headteacher

Heads of School: Mr P Kinder and Mr S Day Address: Tithepit Shaw Lane, Warlingham, Surrey, CR6 9YB Telephone: 01883 624067 Email: info@warlinghamschool.co.uk Website: www.warlinghamschool.co.uk



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