



HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Learning together Achieving together

3 April 2020

Dear All

Coronavirus COVID-19 Examination Update for GCSE, BTEC and A level students

Again, I hope this letter finds you healthy and well.

Today, Ofqual have published a statement on the process for determining grades, as I informed you they would in my earlier letter this week:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/how-gcses-as-a-levels-will-be-awarded-in-summer-2020>

There is also a letter for students explaining the situation and detailing some information regarding likely points of question:

- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877830/Letter_to_students_-_Summer_2020_grading.pdf

Obviously, we are still digesting the details of this information but it seems to be very much along the lines that I detailed, previously. The key points being:

- Exact details for submitting grades will be sent to schools after the Easter break via individual examination boards
- They will use a range of evidence
- There will be a method for national standardisation of the grades submitted
- The deadline for submission will have a deadline not earlier than 29 May 2020
- There is still some discussion regarding vocational subjects to be decided
- Grades will be published to students not later than the usual time in August and preferably slightly before (end of July) to promote certainty to students
- We **cannot** under any circumstances disclose to students the grades that teachers submit so please do not contact teachers concerning this

Can I repeat my guidance at the end of my previous letter concerning students completing set work to the best of their abilities for the reasons detailed there; nearly all those reasons

Furthermore, I completely sympathise with all students' concerns. Hopefully, this announcement goes some way to reassuring everyone of the process going forward. Again, **please trust us to do the best for each student, holistically, and please refrain from contacting individual members of staff to request specific grades in specific subjects awarded.** This could potentially jeopardise the integrity of the process of grade determination.

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As always, I will keep you informed when/if more information becomes available. I will be digesting the finer detail of the announcement today over Easter and can be contacted by email if you or your child has any further significant concerns.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy and as normal an Easter break as possible and hope you all stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Dr Adam Hadley

Assistant Head