

# Parents Exam Groups Briefing 12 March 2021



# Exam Groups Briefing

## Outcomes:

- Know how grades will be awarded this summer
- Understand how students will build evidence of progress
- Know what lessons will be like for the rest of this year
- Understand the support process to ensure evidence is as robust as it needs to be



# Unprecedented times

“Young people have shown incredible resilience over the last year, continuing with their learning ... while the country battles with this pandemic. Those efforts deserve to be fairly rewarded.

That’s why we are providing the fairest possible system for those students, asking those who know them best – their teachers – to determine their grades, with our sole aim to make sure all young people can progress to the next stage of their education or career.”

*Gavin Williamson*



# Summary Ofqual Guidance

- Ofqual has confirmed that Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) will be used to award GCSE, A Level and Vocational qualifications
- Unlike last year, exam boards will not alter the grades based on previous students' performance
- There will be a quality assurance process where exam boards sample the evidence we have used to award TAGs
- Students are not expected to complete a specified percentage of the course content, but Head Teachers will be required to confirm that students have sufficient knowledge and skill to merit an award



# Teaching and Assessment for Exam Groups

- Ofqual have confirmed that we don't have to assess all the course content
- Students should receive feedback on how to improve work based on mark schemes and regular feedback on progress towards predicted grade.
- We have planned lessons for the rest of the year to focus on revision and assessment
- Students will build a physical or electronic evidence portfolio in every subject in which copies assessments and coursework will be kept
- Homework will normally be based around preparation for the following weeks' learning



# Evidence portfolios

- Teacher assessed grades will be used for Years 10, 11 and 13 exam groups this summer based on evidence of your work
- We were expecting this and we asked students to make every piece of work count at the beginning of the year
- We have kept really good records of what students have done and we can use this to support our TAGs as well
- Evidence can include previous and future work including mocks, assessments, classwork and home learning
- Strongest evidence is likely to be work done most recently and under controlled conditions
- It is our job to make sure we have enough evidence of best work
- We need students and parents to work with us to ensure no student at our school is not disadvantaged by this pandemic



# Support and Intervention

Subjects may require students to attend intervention session during period 0, period 6, or during a study period if:

- They are missing a lot of work
- They could achieve a higher grade with some extra support

Students may be required to attend an independent study session if they can complete work without specialist support.



# Support and Intervention

Students can also choose to attend additional intervention sessions or independent study sessions if they would like to do so.

## **Year 10 Early Entry**

Year 10 early entry surgery is extended to 5 nights a week 3.05-4.00 Monday to Thursday and until 5.00 on a Friday

## **Year 11**

Year 11 study lounge will run every day after school until 5pm

## **Year 13**

Study periods may be tied in to a particular subject



# Overarching Principles

- Students should be given every opportunity to be awarded the best grade they could have realistically expected had this pandemic not interrupted their learning
- Students should not have an inflated set of grades that allows them to progress onto courses that they are unable to access
- Students should be enabled to progress and add value to their grades between now and final assessment as they would have done if exams had gone ahead



We will support  
you but  
perhaps more  
than ever  
before.....

