



December 2020

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers,

Changes to Next Summer's GCSE Exams

You may have seen on this morning's news that the government have today announced the following measures to support students in next summer's GCSE and A-level exams:-

- more generous grading than usual, in line with results from summer 2020, so that this year's cohort is not disadvantaged
- students getting advance notice - at the end of January - of some topic areas covered in exams to focus revision
- exam aids - such as formula sheets - provided in some exams to cut down on the memorising required
- additional "backup" exams - to be held in July - to give students a second chance to sit a paper if they have to miss main exams or assessments due to illness or self-isolation
- and a new expert group, which will monitor variation in the impact of the pandemic on students across the country
- In extreme cases, where a student misses all their papers, a teacher-assessed grade will be given.

This information was shared with your son/daughter during form time this morning.

These new measures complement the existing changes for next summer which include:-

- reduced content in many subjects
- a delay to the start of exams and changes to the timetable
- I appreciate that this morning's announcement may lead to questions from students about precisely what the announcement means for them personally. We will of course share further information as soon as we receive it. This is likely to be in the New Year.

The full announcement, including information about Ofsted inspections and primary school tests, can be found here:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-measures-to-support-students-ahead-of-next-summer-exams>

I hope that you find this information useful.

Kind regards,

Mr Banks
Deputy Headteacher

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