

Ambition · Pride · Success

22nd May 2020

Dear Year 13

It seems so long ago now that we were all at school and prepping for your exams and so much has changed for you, the school and the world. It is sometimes hard to remember that this too will pass and we will emerge as stronger human beings with a greater sense of what is important to us and what our values truly are.

I am sure that you will have read and heard that schools will be reopening using a phased approach and that Years 10 and 12 will be the first students returning. Whilst you as Year 13 will not be returning to school, we are still keen to ensure that you feel supported in moving to the next phase in preparing for your future.

We are not able to provide exact dates at this point; however, we would like to flag up some key events we will be holding to celebrate the year group and to support transition.

- 1. We will be holding a Virtual Leavers' Assembly, to which all students and parents will be invited. We will also record this to make it available if students and parents are not able to 'attend'.
- 2. There will be a UCAS day for those students that have applied to university, to ensure that you are aware of the choices that you have.

We would also like to explain the grade allocation and results process for this year. Teachers have been considering a wide range of evidence to allocate a grade for each student they teach. This grade is based on external examinations (where appropriate), mock data, coursework, as well as internal assessments, classwork and intervention work. Teachers have also taken into consideration the gains that students make in the final months due to revision, Easter lessons, interventions and targeted work. Teachers have then allocated a grade. However, it is important to note, that the grade that our staff give may not be the grade that you are given by Ofqual in your final results.

How could the grade be amended?

Once teachers have allocated a grade, they have then been asked to rank your performance against the performance of your peers in school in each subject you take. This will give the examination board information that will allow them to set the grade boundaries. They will then consider a variety of data, including your performance at the end of KS4. This may mean in some circumstances that, where a student is at the higher end of a ranking you may be given a grade higher than the teacher's judgment. It could also mean that where a student is at the lower end of the ranking you may be given a grade lower that the teacher's judgment.

Schools and staff have been advised by the Government, Ofqual and the Department for Education that they are not allowed to share the grades that they have allocated nor the ranking with students or parents. Any non-compliance with this request will have serious repercussions for the school and potentially the student. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Mrs Shivalkar.

Results will be available to students on Thursday August 13th. We are working on plans for how to distribute these results and we will be offering a variety of means of collecting these, but we will provide more detail once we have information about what is possible under lockdown, or whether some restrictions have been lifted.

Take care of yourselves and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

Mrs N Shivalkar Mr S Lindquist Assistant Principal Head of Year 13

