

Haileybury Turnford

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18th January 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Consultation on arrangements for vocational qualifications, GCSE, AS and A-Level exams this summer

Following the cancellation of all vocational, GCSE, AS and A-Level exams this summer, the Department of Education and Ofqual (the exam regulator) launched its joint consultation on Friday 15th January. They want to hear the views of students and other learners who were due to take their assessments and external exams, their parents and carers, their teachers, school and college leaders and others who have an interest, including further and higher education providers, and employers. The consultation covers GCSEs, AS and A Levels, as well as Vocational and Technical qualifications, and other general qualifications.

The consultation period ends on 29th January. At the end of this consultation period, arrangements for summer exams will be finalised by the Department of Education and Ofqual, and communicated to us all. Clearly, there remains much uncertainty for all parties until final arrangements for the summer are finalised.

The consultation for Vocational and Technical qualifications (VTQs) and other general qualifications can be viewed in full here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-alternative-arrangements-for-the-award-of-vtqs-and-other-general-qualifications-in-2021>

The consultation for GCSE, AS and A-Level qualifications can be viewed in full here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

Please do consider responding, by completing the online consultation. Click on the “Respond online” link on each of these webpages to give your feedback about proposed arrangements.

A summary of the consultation proposals for the replacement of 2021 exams are as follows:

- Teachers provide replacement grades for GCSEs, AS and A Levels
- Evidence required could include coursework, essays, tests and homework
- External tests set by exam boards, but likely to be marked in school
- Results to be provided in early July instead of late August, to support with destinations
- Vocational exams will use teachers' grades, but separate arrangements for practical skills
- Two-week consultation which ends on 29th January, before any final decisions are made and communicated to all stakeholders

Our expectations of all students remain exactly the same as communicated previously: ensure that you attend all remote lessons on Microsoft Teams in the coming weeks whilst school remains closed. This will give you the very best opportunity to be successful this summer, and attain the grades of which you are capable and deserve.

With best wishes

Yours faithfully



Robin Newman
Principal



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