



**The King's School**

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## THE KING'S SCHOOL

12 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Re: Awarding of GCSE/Vocational Grades**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to follow up the correspondence from Monday 1 March, now that we have had the opportunity to digest the information from Ofqual regarding the awarding of GCSE and vocational grades.

If you have read the guidance, you will see that essentially, we will be providing exam boards with a teacher judgement grade, which we are required to submit to the exam board by Friday, 18 June 2021.

#### [How qualifications will be awarded in 2021 guidance](#)

Click [here](#) for a useful overview of how grades will be awarded. These arrangements are designed so that teaching and learning can continue for as long as possible, and teacher judgements of student work can take place as late in the academic year as is practical. This system is very similar to last year, therefore we are well versed in this approach and parents /carers and students were very satisfied with the fairness of the grades they received.

#### **Awarding of Grades**

To arrive at the grade, we will consider a range of evidence to support our judgement such as classwork, homework, December mock exam results, any non-assessed coursework and final summer assessments. Please be assured that maximum consideration will be given to the above in order to ensure that the grades we allocate for all our students are accurate, fair and representative of the hard work they have put in. Each subject area will outline to students' which pieces of evidence they will be using to allocate grades.

#### **Quality Assurance**

In order for the grades to be as fair and as accurate as possible across schools nationally, exam boards are putting quality assurance arrangements in place to make sure that consistent judgements are being made, and it is my responsibility as Headteacher to sign off all grades. Exam boards will also ask all schools to confirm that they have followed the correct procedure for determining grades.

#### **Final Summer Assessments**

Our key focus now is strengthening the evidence base, and therefore Year 11 students will sit a final assessment for most of their subjects. These assessments will take place from Monday, 10 May to Friday, 21 May. As previously mentioned, these assessments will only form part of the evidence base.

Assessments will fully reflect and be appropriate to what students have been taught with regards to knowledge and skills. Students will be fully informed in lessons about the nature of the assessments and will be given the opportunity to revise for them.

**Leaving Date and Final Issuing of results**

We are still waiting for definitive guidance on students' last day in school and we will communicate this as soon as we can. We are planning all the normal celebrations, but obviously COVID-19 restrictions will influence what this look like. Results will be issued to students on **Thursday, 12 August 2021**. Please note, in line with guidance, we are not able to communicate teacher awarded grades prior to this date.

I hope that this provides further clarity for you, please allow us to manage the situation to produce accurate and fair results for our students. As always, if there are any questions, please do contact school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Pinto', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**Mr D Pinto**  
**Headteacher**

