



Beths Grammar School

an 11 – 18 selective school with academy status

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3 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

You and your son or daughter will undoubtedly be aware of the publication last week by the Government about the awarding of GCSE and A level grades this summer. [Teacher assessed grades for students - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Whilst we have some details and have started to plan for this, it is a process that will evolve over the coming weeks and months given that much of the information is not currently available to us.

In order to build flexibility into the way we are gathering evidence to determine students' grades, we will use a variety of sources to support their final grade. This will include:

- teacher assessment
- teacher professional judgment of work submitted throughout the course
- a standardised formal assessment at the end of the course.

On return to school, we have asked Heads of Department to provide a definitive list of the topics for students and parents which they believe could be assessed by the school. This will ensure parity and consistency and will cover both work assessed in class and during the concentrated final assessment period in May.

In the run up to Easter, we will look to assess students' performance on the work covered in school and during lockdown, use the remaining time to consolidate learning and prepare students for the assessment period in May. This will likely take the form of in-classroom testing.

Around Easter, Ofqual have asked Examination Boards to produce materials to support teachers' assessment, which will include descriptors of the standards required for each grade and provide teachers with exemplar material to support their marking and grading judgments.

The final grade will be arrived at using a broad range of evidence including a final standardised assessment and this will carry the greatest weighting towards the final grade.

Subjects which have non-examined elements will contribute to the final assessment. Separate subject endorsements in GCSE English Language, GCSE MFL and A Level Sciences will be submitted as separate grades and some practical subjects such as Art & Design, Drama, Music and Photography will be assessed either partially or entirely via portfolio.

The school will be required by Ofqual and the Examination Boards to have in place a rigorous quality assurance process based around such standards to ensure that work assessed from lessons and assessments sat in May meet the necessary grade criteria. Key to this will be a robust standardisation of all subject teachers making consistent judgments in each of their subjects.

I hope to write again nearer Easter to update you further.

Yours faithfully

Mr R J Blyghton
Headteacher