



Wath Academy

4 March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Teacher assessed grades for students

As previously communicated last week, the Education Secretary made an announcement regarding the awarding of qualifications in summer 2021.

The main points from his announcement were as follows:

- Students will receive grades awarded and determined by teachers, with pupils only assessed on what they have been taught.
- No algorithms will be used.
- Teachers will submit grades to exam boards by Friday 18 June 2021.
- Results day for A Levels/BTECs will be Tuesday 10 August 2021.
- Results days for GCSE/BTECs will be Thursday 12 August 2021.

Two DfE publications outlining further detail and the decisions taken to support students and teachers can be found using these links:

- [awarding qualifications in summer 2021](#)
- [alternative arrangements for the award of VTQs and other general qualifications in 2021](#)

Assessment evidence

Teachers will use evidence to determine grades from across the duration of the student's course. In line with the DfE recommendations, we will be using the following range of evidence, where available:

- student work produced in response to assessment materials provided by the exam board, including groups of questions, past papers or similar materials such as practice or sample papers
- non-exam assessment (NEA) work (often referred to as coursework), even if this has not been fully completed
- student work produced in centre-devised tasks that reflect the specification, that follow the same format as exam board materials and have been marked in a way that reflects exam board mark schemes - this can include:
 - substantial class or homework (including those that took place during remote learning)
 - internal tests taken by pupils
 - mock exams taken over the course of study
- records of a student's capability and performance over the course of study in performance-based subjects such as music, drama and PE
- records of each student's progress and performance over the course of study

In addition to the existing work and assessments that students have previously completed, we will be delivering the 'assessment road map' below from Monday 8 March 2021:

Sandygate, Wath-upon-Deerne, Rotherham, S63 7NW
T: 01709 760222

E: enquiries@wathacademy.com
W: www.wathacademy.com

Principal: Mr L Ransome

- w/c 22nd March - Students take part in a Walking Talking Mock in classrooms
- w/c 12th April – Students to complete an Open Book Exam in classrooms
- w/c 10th May – Students to complete a single 1 hour Subject Exam in the exam hall
- w/c 24th May – Grade moderation process begins
- 18th June – Final Teacher Assessments will be submitted

This road map will give students additional opportunities to evidence their current knowledge, skills, ability and performance, which will be used in conjunction with previous work and assessment, to determine the 'Teacher Assessed Grades'. We also feel the 'assessment road map' will give students the opportunity to build confidence over the next half term and experience what it is like to prepare for and sit end of year exams, an experience which we feel is important in preparation for Post-16 study.

A presentation, via Zoom for students and parents will be delivered on **Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 6pm** (an invite will be sent nearer the time). This presentation will provide further detail and explain the rationale around the 'Teacher Assessed Grade' process.

Through this process teachers will be able to provide students with formative feedback to help them further develop their understanding of course content and further improve, however, they will not be able to discuss predicted grades and how different component from the course contribute to a particular 'Teacher Assessed Grade'.

With this in mind, it is essential to emphasise the importance of the following points between now and May half term. Students must:

- attend all lesson in the academy from Monday 8 March, every period, every day to maximise their learning, progress and development
- revise, prepare fully and put maximum effort into all classwork, assessments and mock exams
- complete all homework set by their teacher
- promptly ask for help and support when needed, they should not wait or dwell on anything they do not understand.

Year 11 and Y13 leaving date

Year 11 and Year 13 students will be officially removed from the school roll on 30 June 2021. At this point we are awaiting further guidance from the DfE around the last day on which Year 11 and Year 13 will be required to attend school. In previous year's students would have stopped attending following their last exam. As soon as we have this information, we will communicate this as soon as possible.

We will also communicate separately, in due course, regarding transition arrangements from Year 11 to Year 12, for students who will be attending Wath Academy Sixth Form in September 2021. We are in the process of planning our transition programme including A Level booster courses and preparation packs.

We will also be monitoring the latest Government announcements closely to see whether not it will be feasible to have a Year 11 and Year 13 Prom. We will communicate further details following the government announcement in April.

As I mentioned last week, I want to acknowledge the daunting nature of the above information and the anxiety this may cause. Teachers, who know your child best, are being trusted and supported to ensure that all pupils are given a grade based upon what they have covered and not on what they may have missed.

In addition to the above, just a reminder that our staff are only ever a phone call or email away; please do not hesitate to ask for our help or support if you need it – we are here to help.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ransome
Principal