



Archbishop Tenison's

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

22 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the beginning of the summer term. I would like to use this letter to clarify how the school will create GCSE grades for pupils and the focus of our online curriculum during this next half term.

The Government and Ofqual have set out their strategy for generating GCSE and A Level grades. Many of you will have seen the video the school directed you to, or read the Ofqual guidance, but here is a brief summary.

- 1) The school will provide each examination board with two pieces of information: a) the grade that we would award each pupil if they sat their examinations in May/June, taking into consideration all the areas of assessment; b) the rank order of these grades.
- 2) Departments will decide these grades by looking at all evidence available: mock examination grades, non-examination assessments (coursework), classwork and homework.
- 3) **Departments will base their grades on work completed before the school was closed on 20th March.**
- 4) Non-examination assessments should not be completed if they were incomplete when schools were closed, but any work already done can be used to help teachers make their decisions about grades.
- 5) Pupils will be given the opportunity to sit examinations in the Autumn term. They can then use either of the grades they were awarded.
- 6) The school will send the grades to the examination boards and they will then apply their processes for deciding the final grades the pupils will receive. Please note the grades the school awards might be different from the final grades the examination boards award.

We have created a rigorous strategy for deciding the examinations grades and all departments will follow this process. Teachers are not permitted to tell pupils the grades they have awarded; pupils will need to wait for the official grades to be published.

During this half term, the focus of the curriculum will shift from finishing GCSE content to preparing for A Level and BTEC studies. We encourage pupils to engage with the work in the subjects that they plan to study in September.

Thank you for all your hard work! We realise that this is a challenging time for parents and carers and will continue to provide lessons and resources that give pupils structure to their day and develop their knowledge and understanding of the subjects they study.

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Headteacher: Richard Parrish MA (Oxon)

Please continue to read for a message from your child's Head of Year.

Yours sincerely,



Neil Hart
Senior Assistant Headteacher

A message from Mrs Cheney (Head of Year 11)

Dear Parents Carers,

I hope that you have all managed to have a restful time over the Easter break. I was very proud to hear of how many Year 11 pupils watched the end of term service and I personally thoroughly enjoyed seeing the Year 11s who participated; they did a fantastic job!

Your subject teachers are working hard to understand and calculate GCSE grades using the guidance given by the government. You will also be able to take exams in the autumn term if you choose. If you believe that you will be someone that wishes to do that, make sure that you do some revision tasks and practice questions to keep your knowledge fresh.

I would also like to share some advice with you. Make sure you keep up to date with the lessons and homework that are being put on Show My Homework by your teachers. If the work requires submission, please do so. The work that is currently being set has two purposes: the first, is to ensure the courses are complete should you choose to take the exam at a later date; the second, is to make sure those pupils choosing to do a subject at A Level, for example, are prepared with all of the prior learning needed for the course.

Please keep busy, look after yourselves and get in contact with me, your form tutors, or your teachers: The entire school community is still here!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Cheney
Head of Year 11