



SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

Oakleaze, Gloucester

Year 11 Update

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Dear Parents

Ofqual has today released further guidance on how examination grades will be determined this year. The link to this information may be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf

There is also a letter to students from Sally Collier, Chief Regulator of Ofqual that is attached to this email. Please read this carefully. Rest assured that the Senior Leadership Team, along with Heads of Department and subject teachers will be working together to ensure that we follow the guidance accurately and that we fulfil the promises made in our earlier emails that we will use all information at our disposal to generate fair and positive grades for each of our students before we submit them to Ofqual for statistical adjustment.

The guidance is clear that we must award grades that students would most likely have achieved if they had taken their examinations and completed any non-examined assessments. We will be taking into account classwork, homework, any participation in performances in subjects such as music, drama or PE, the results of any assignments or mock exams, previous examination results and any other records of student performance over the course of their studies.

To reassure pupils who fear that their performance at any stage during the GCSE course and in particular the Mock examinations in November is not consistent with their potential final examination performance, we will use our data on previous cohorts to identify, track and apply an upwards trajectory as part of our positive approach to completing our part of this process. In accordance with the attached letter from Ofqual, staff must now not release further information about pupils' performance in individual subjects. We will consider individual circumstances such as students' IEPs, illness and family situations, for example. We also know that some students make remarkable progress in the last few weeks of the GCSE course.

Once again, we fully appreciate the effects that this unprecedented situation will be having on all of us. Whilst the way in which examination grades will be determined this year has changed, please remember that what hasn't changed is our continued commitment to hold our students' very best interests at heart, both now and for the future.

Very best wishes,

Peter

Mr PM Daniell

Assistant Headteacher – Head of Upper School

SIR THOMAS RICH'S

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