



Date: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
Ref: MMN/KS4

Dear Parent/ Carer

**RE: Year 11 GCSE Examinations and Assessment 2021/22**

I am writing to update you with regards to the school's plans for the safeguarding of progress within Year 11. As you will be aware the government has re-stated their intention to return to formal examinations for GCSE's during the summer series 2022. This, therefore, currently means that our Year 11 students will be expected to sit their examinations in the coming summer. The government have also included some alterations to ensure that the student experience is fair and that outcomes are appropriately matched to student's efforts. These are outlined below:

**Choice:** In some GCSEs (English, Maths, History and Geography) schools will be able to select topics that students will be questioned on in the examination.

**Study Aids:** In GCSE Maths, students will be given formulae sheets, and they can use equations sheets in Physics and Combined Science (Double Award).

**Advanced Notice:** Students will be given exam topics by February 7<sup>th</sup> to help with revision in some subjects.

**Grades:** Grade boundaries will be set between 2021 and pre-pandemic levels to ensure fairness for all students.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ofquals-approach-to-grading-exams-and-assessments-in-summer-2022-and-autumn-2021>

The government have advised schools to have a contingency plan alongside the proposed exams in the summer. We, therefore, will be using a similar assessment model that proved successful in 2020/2021.

**Year 11 Assessment Programme 2021/22**

The school has introduced the following Year 11 assessment programme across all subjects to support teachers in their regular assessment of student progress. Students will be assessed monthly by their teachers to provide evidence of progress across the academic year. These assessments, alongside our formal Centre Assessed Examinations (Mock Exams), homework and classwork would form the basis of our Teacher Assessed Grades if required.

Assessment Cycle 1	CAE 1 (Mock 1 results)
Assessment Cycle 2	November – 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Assessment Cycle 3	December – 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Assessment Cycle 4	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2022 – 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Assessment Cycle 5	February – 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Assessment Cycle 6	March – 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
Completed Evidence Set	19 <sup>th</sup> May 2022

Students will be advised by subject teachers the dates of these assessments. Where student's ability to participate in examinations or assessments are impacted by illness we will do all we can to ensure that they are not unfairly impacted. We will keep you updated through "Success 22" which is published and sent out monthly.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

**Mr McGeown**  
**Assistant Headteacher – Raising Standards (Key Stage 4)**

