

March 2020

Dear Year 13 and Year 12 AS students

I wanted to let you know where we are in terms of updates regarding your summer qualifications. The body which regulates and oversees all qualifications (Ofqual) is still working with the various exam boards to decide how results will be awarded.

There are still no finalised answers that I am able to give you, but it is highly likely that **A Level and AS qualifications** will be awarded using teacher assessment plus prior attainment (GCSE grades). The detail around this will be decided over the next week (we hope!).

For the **vocational subjects**, again, no decision has been reached as to best way to award overall grades. It may be based on what you have achieved in units completed so far. It may be that some units that are not completed may have to be completed, perhaps in a different format.

Based on this, I do want to reiterate again the importance of you all continuing to complete any work that is asked of you. If you are on an **AS / A Level course**, you may have coursework as part of that which may be required to be completed. You may also have the opportunity to sit an actual exam in September. This may be useful if you feel you could have achieved a higher grade than you perhaps had in class based assessments, but it also means that revision and learning is still required. If you are taking a **Vocational (BTEC or OCR or WJEC) qualification** then there is the possibility that coursework or practical units may still be required to be completed.

I have used a lot of the words 'may' and 'perhaps' in this email and I am sorry that I can't provide you with any concrete answers regarding the way forward. I hope that we get the guidance we need within the next week to be able to give you the answers you need.

If you wish to read further about the current state of play please see the links that I have attached below from Ofqual:

A / AS Level - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-update-on-2020-exams>

Vocational - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-on-vocational-and-technical-qualifications-in-2020>

Yours faithfully

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A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under company registration number: 7638979

Charity Registration Number: 527392



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