



1 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We received further guidance this week from the Department for Education on how grades will be awarded for GCSEs and A Levels this year. We outlined the broad approach in a letter to parents in January ([link here](#)) and the latest guidance supports the plans discussed then.

Students' grades will be based upon a portfolio of assessments in each subject made up of work that they have done so far this year and additional in-class assessments that will take place over the next two months. Additionally, we will run an assessment week in mid-May giving students a further opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have developed across all of their subjects.

It is important that students continue to work hard over the next couple of months to allow teachers to provide accurate grades reflecting their current attainment levels. Subject teachers have outlined to students the topic areas they should focus on for next term, and Easter revision of these topics will help prepare students for the work they will complete when they return in April.

We will communicate to parents and carers again after the Easter break with more details around how we will arrive at final grades, but the key point is that all assessments carried out in class next term and during the assessment week in May will count towards the final evidence base.

Attached is additional guidance, published by the Joint Council for Qualifications on Friday, which gives an overview of the most important information that students, parents or guardians need to know about how grades will be awarded this summer.

Yours sincerely

**Adam Leyburn**  
**Vice Principal**