

24.03.2021

Email to Year 11 and Year 13

Dear Parent / Carer

We recognise that this is a highly anxious time for students and parents / carers in Year 11 / 13 across the whole country in regards to GCSE and A Level grading. Final details on the approach NSB will be taking to grade students for their GCSEs / A Levels will be sent to parents / carers by Thursday, March 25th and these details will include channels of communication for any questions that you may have once you have read through the process. Students are also being given relevant information through assemblies this week.

An NSB webinar on this summer's grading and appeals process will also be held for all Year 11 / 13 parents / carers on Monday, April 19th from 5.30pm – 6.30pm. Further details as to how to access this webinar will be released on return from the Easter Holidays.

Year 11 Parents' Evening is taking place remotely on Thursday, March 25th. As GCSE grades this year will be formulated from teacher assessments rather than public exams, teachers have been given clear direction as to what is permitted to be discussed during conversations with parents / carers. We would very much appreciate parents / carers limiting their questions to the areas that have been highlighted as suitable for discussion.

Teachers will discuss and comment on:

- work ethic
- performance over lockdown / performance since the return to school and any identified gaps
- behaviour
- academic strengths
- academic areas of development
- coursework performance subject to moderation
- the grade range that the student is capable of if their performance in the Term 5 assessments matches their ability in the subject
- subject related careers information

Teachers will not enter discussion on:

- predictions of a final specific grade that the teacher thinks that the student will achieve
- confirmation of end of Term assessment grades to date (as these will be subject now to further moderation)
- specific details of the tasks which will be used for Term 5 assessments
- specific details of other sources of evidence which will be used to support the grading process (we are waiting on further clarification from the Exam Boards)

Richard Bernard
Headmaster