

Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) for Year 11 and 13 students**

Further to my letter at the start of term, dated 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021, you may well be aware that the Secretary of State for Education, Mr Gavin Williamson, has confirmed that all final grades for GCSE, BTEC and A-Level qualifications this year will be teacher-assessed using 'Centre Assessed Grades' (CAGs). I understand that you may have questions about how we will make our final decisions on grades, so I would like to set out some information around our framework for determining the grade your child will receive.

Most significantly, Mr Williamson and Ofsted have made it clear that we will need strong evidence on which to decide our CAGs. We entirely agree with this, as students need to show they are capable of performing academically at a certain level. Consequently, Future Academies have decided that **every student will take internal assessments in each of the subjects they have been studying**. These will provide a robust foundation on which to base our judgement and enable students to feel they have truly achieved the grade they are awarded.

We await further guidance from the Department for Education and will provide more detail about the nature of the assessments in due course. In the meantime, we want all students to understand and be prepared for assessments that will be very similar to the exams they would have been expected to complete. Please support us in this approach by ensuring that your child continues to work towards their assessments for this year.

Although the internal assessments will provide us with vital information, they alone will not be used to award the Centre Assessed Grades. Towards the end of the course, we will be asking all Year 11 students to hand in their exercise books and all Year 13 students to submit evidence of their class notes and ongoing work. **It is essential, therefore, that students continue to complete all classwork neatly and to the best of their ability, and that any work that teachers ask students to submit in the coming weeks is completed in full and submitted promptly.**

As a parent or carer, you can check daily the work that your child has completed by looking in their exercise books and/or folders. You can check your child's timetable by looking at their calendar on Microsoft Teams. Some practical subjects may not have exercise books, but, for those that do, you should be able to see:

- A title and date, underlined, for each lesson
- A completed 'Do Now'. This is a short task at the start of each lesson
- Work completed for that lesson
- Some work should have either ticks or corrections in green pen

I know that the vast majority of students are continuing to work very diligently, though I must make it clear that **we will be unable to award a good grade if we cannot see evidence of a sufficient quantity and quality of work in a student's book.**

We understand there are, occasionally, specific extenuating circumstances that may have unnecessarily hindered a child's progress. For this reason, each child and their results will be discussed individually with teachers, Heads of Department and other leaders in the academy to ensure we have an accurate depiction of exactly what grade they would achieve in each subject, should they have had fair access to a full and proper education.

I hope this gives you some confidence in our procedures. I will write to you in the future with further details.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'D. Smith'.

Mr. D Smith  
Principal