



6 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: EARLY ENTRY ASSESSMENT GRADES -YEAR 10

I do hope that this letter finds you and your family well at this time.

Following previous communication from the school and Jenn Plews (CEO of the Trust), I write to confirm the school's decision to award GCSE grades to **Year 10 Religious Education students who expected to take the exam this Summer**. Ofqual confirmed yesterday that 'early entry' assessments can go ahead and as a result, schools have been asked to provide a Centre Assessment Grade for each student in Year 10 RE and an overall rank order for the students studying this course (i.e. one list per qualification).

The exam boards have requested that teachers submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if the exams had gone ahead. To produce this, teachers will take into account a range of evidence including performance on practice/mock papers and non-exam assessment. The exam boards will follow the proposed statistical standardisation model approved by Ofqual and will combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment at school level. This will be used to produce a calculated grade for each student.

Please be assured that the teachers and subject leaders are proven experts in assessment, making ethical, informed decisions about a student's ability, based on the range of information already gathered. Results days for calculated grades will be the same as previously published:

Thursday 13th August – GCE
Thursday 20th August – GCSE

The exam boards have insisted that the centre-assessed grades, rank orderings and endorsements are confidential and **must not** be given to students, parents/ carers. I would like to thank parents for respecting this and not putting pressure on staff. Exam boards have made it clear that any communication with the intent to influence a child's grade could be deemed as malpractice and must be reported to the exam board.

Religious Education is the only course for Year 10 students, that the above-mentioned grading will apply to this Summer. All other students will complete their remaining courses and exams in the September 2020-21 academic year.

Please find below a link to further guidance from the Joint Council for Qualifications:
<http://www.jcq.org.uk/Download/media-centre/news-releases/jcq-update-on-the-summer-series-2020>

Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you have any queries. As soon as we are aware of schools reopening, we will be in touch with further details.

With best wishes to you and your family at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Clarke
Head of Academy