

New Forest Care Education

25th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today (25/02/2021) the GCSE awarding for 2021 announcement was made by the government, and they have released the full details in this press release which can be read here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/teacher-assessed-grades-for-students>

From this release the key information has been summarised below -

- GCSE exams will be replaced by grades determined and awarded by teachers (there will be no algorithm used)
- Teachers can use a range of evidence to determine these grades (mock exams / coursework / other work such as in-class tests or essays already completed)
- Exam boards will also be supplying optional question papers which can be used as evidence (these will be taken in-class not in an exams-hall environment)
- Grades need to be submitted by 18/06/2021 to the exam boards
- Results day will take place during the week of 09/08/2021
- There will be an appeals process for the awarded grade

Like we did in 2020, we will be ensuring that the grades determined and awarded are:

- Fair
- Evidenced based
- Without bias

It is important to note that, unlike in 2020, Year 11 will be returning in March and though there has been a great deal of time lost, the return does allow for students to continue their study of the curriculum and have the opportunity to add to the evidence staff already have collected about their potential in a given subject and evidence for a fair GCSE grade. The exams submission deadline is 18/06/2021 which is designed to allow students as much teaching time as possible before teachers make their assessments.

It is likely that we will ask teachers to continue with the curriculum as normal for Year 11 upon return, with teachers collecting evidence and preparing students in the subject as best they can. It is then planned that in May further evidence will be collected, including asking students to sit some forms of assessment which will likely include the released exam board papers (or parts of these papers of which the curriculum has been completed) as well as other appropriate content. This will form a very strong piece of evidence in justifying an awarded grade, which we know will be scrutinised - exam boards will provide detailed guidance before the end of the spring term to support teachers, Subject Leaders and SLT in making their judgements.

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Education



***The intention is that regardless of how much teaching time a student may have missed out on at New Forest School, they will have questions on a topic they will have studied allowing for a fair judgement of a grade.**

New Forest School will, like we always do, take a little time to digest this information and make the absolute best decision for our students. We will release more details including a more detailed timeline of our exam season as soon as we are able to.

Kindest regards,



Duncan Smith
Headteacher

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