

# CLAVERHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Principal: Mr P. Swatton, B.Eng (Hons)

Date: 21st May 2021

Ref: CHW/PAS

Dear Parents and Carers,

In March, we shared with you the College's response to Ofqual's guidance regarding the grading of this year's GCSE and Vocational qualifications. Since Ofqual published the outcomes of their decision, there has been a great deal of media commentary regarding the impact this process may have on the students who have been denied the opportunity to sit 'normal' examinations.

It is undeniable that this concentrated period of assessment has been challenging for students across the country. Throughout the process, we have endeavoured to keep the pressure felt by our students to manageable proportions and provide support wherever it has been required.

By the end of this week, we will have collected the majority of evidence required to finalise the Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG's) which we will then submit to the Examination Boards on 18.06.21. We have been impressed by the mindset and maturity displayed by our Year 11 cohort during the assessment period. They have shown an exemplary approach to the whole process and behaved impeccably throughout.

Since Easter, we have conducted a series of training exercises to ensure that our teaching staff are completely familiar with and fully understand the demands which have been placed upon us. A comprehensive and robust quality assurance process has been developed and applied throughout the period of evidence collection and, as such, we are extremely confident that the grades we will issue will be a fair, reasonable and carefully considered judgement of each student's performance. It is important to emphasise that, as in any normal examination year, the grades issued by the college will be based on what each student has achieved, rather than their potential in a subject.

The document linked below provides parents and students with further guidance from Ofqual outlining the arrangements in place for awarding grades in summer 2021, and where you can go for additional information.

[Student guide to awarding summer 2021 AS/A Levels in England Summer 2021](#)

In the guide, Ofqual says it is "really important" that pupils do not try to pressure teachers into changing their grading decisions, as this will be treated as malpractice. The new guide also outlines how students can appeal if they believe a grade is wrong.

As we have previously explained, TAG's will not be based on any single piece of evidence from Terms 4 or 5. In accordance with DfE guidelines we have based our judgements on a range of evidence. The content of this has been shared with the students so they are fully aware of what to expect and how the grades will be determined.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that Friday 28th May will be the last day of full time attendance for Year 11 students. We have been liaising with our post-16 partners to provide the necessary support our students will require to facilitate a smooth transition to the next phase of their education and details of this program will be provided as the term comes to a close. We will also continue to update you with information regarding the arrangements for the events we are holding to celebrate your child's time at Claverham.

Once again, we wish to thank you for your continued support during what has been a hugely challenging time for parents, students and staff alike. We look forward to celebrating the successes of your sons and daughters on GCSE Results Day, Thursday 12th August.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Swatton', written in a cursive style.

Mr P.Swatton  
Principal