



1st May 2020

Dear Students and Parents,

Centre Assessed Grades and Ranking

As you will be aware, instead of the intended summer exam series, Ofqual and the DfE have asked us to generate a Centre Assessed Grade and a rank order for all students entered for GCSE and A-level exams this year. As a parent of student/s in Years 11 and/or Year 13, we know that you will understandably be very interested in how Kingsbury High School intends to generate centre assessed grades and rank orders.

We will be using a wide range of evidence to generate Centre Assessed Grades and to rank the students within those grades. We have had clear guidance from Ofqual as to what sources of evidence we should use. The guidelines from Ofqual are that centres could use:

- Records of each student's performance over the course of study, including for example progress review data, classwork, bookwork, and/or participation in performances in subjects such as music, drama and PE.
- Performance on any non-exam assessment (NEA), even if this has not been fully completed.
- For re-sitting students, any information about previous grades achieved or NEA marks that would, under normal circumstances, have been carried forward.
- Performance on any class or homework assessments and mock exams taken over the course of study.
- Tier of entry in tiered subjects – centre assessment grades must reflect the tier of entry (9 to 3 for higher tier; 5 to 1 for foundation, as well as U).
- Previous results at the school in this subject – Ofqual data shows that for most centres any year-on-year variation in results for a given subject is normally quite small.
- The performance of this year's students compared to those in previous years.
- Special consideration requests, in the event that a student is unable to take an assessment or suffers a traumatic event that might affect their performance, will not apply this summer. Instead judgements should reflect how the students would have performed under ordinary circumstances. Where illness or other personal circumstances might have affected performance in mock exams, centres should bear that in mind when making their judgements.

As part of the process we will be discussing each and every child's grade and rank in every subject at least twice before it is submitted to the exam board. Examination boards will then

moderate the Centre Assessed Grades so that grades are broadly in line with what has been achieved in exam centres and nationally in previous years.

Teachers have been continuing to set work for Year 11 and 13 in order to complete the specification. This is so that students can be best prepared for their next stage: sixth form / college or university. Should students take the opportunity to sit for an exam next academic year (if they are unhappy with their centre assessed grade – issued in August) this work will also ensure that they have completed the whole course. In the evidence that contributes to the centre assessed grade we are not asking subject teachers to take account of work that has been completed since we closed on March 20th.

As an examination centre, we have been instructed that **we must not, under any circumstances, share the Centre Assessed Grades nor the rank order of students with students, their parents/carers or any other individuals outside the centre.** May we therefore respectfully request that you do not contact the school asking for this information.

Following the release of results in August, there will be an opportunity to appeal those results. However, for the moment we have no more detail on how this appeals process will work. There may also be an opportunity for students who are unhappy with the grades to sit exams during the Autumn term; again, we currently we have no further information on exactly how and when these will take place or if every subject will be offered.

We appreciate this is a very difficult and stressful time for everyone but particularly for your children who are in their examination year. We are working hard to ensure we do all their hard work justice throughout this process.

The Department for Education confirmed that the dates for the publication of grades will be as originally planned. These are **13th August for A level** and **20th August for GCSE.**

I hope that you and your family are well and offer our thoughts and prayers for all those in our community affected by this pandemic.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Thomas
Headteacher