



6th May 2020

Dear Parents,

Centre Assessed Grades and Ranking for Religious Studies GCSE

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 you will, understandably, be very interested in how Kingsbury High School intends to generate centre assessed grades and rank orders for Religious Studies GCSE, for which all students in Year 10 are entered. As a result of the recent consultation by Ofqual, students entered for GCSEs in this year group are also included in the national arrangements with Year 11 and 13. This only applies to their Religious Studies entry, all their Year 11 examinations will be examined in the usual way (next year).

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 and bookwork.
- Performance on any class or homework assessments and mock exams taken over the course of study.
- 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 at least twice before it is submitted to the exam board. The Examination board 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 10. 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.

The Department for Education confirmed that the dates for the publication of grades will be as originally planned. These are **20th August for GCSE.** Following the release of results, 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.

We appreciate this is a very difficult and stressful time for everyone but particularly for your children who have been preparing for the 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