



8th July, 2020

Dear Year 10 Students / Parents and Carers,

I trust that you and your families are keeping safe and well and that those students who are coming into school for weekly face-to-face sessions are finding the experience beneficial.

OFQUAL (the organisation which regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England) has recently set out some proposals for how to adapt exams in summer 2021 to reflect the teaching and learning time lost to the coronavirus. These are the intended changes:

- no need to record the spoken language assessment in GCSE English Language
- allowing GCSE students to observe (rather than undertake) science practicals
- assessing art and design students on their portfolio alone.
- No assessment of fieldwork in GCSE Geography
- A choice of topics in GCSE History exams, with one mandatory unit
- Changes to the exam timetable, with GCSEs possibly starting after half term on 7 June 2021.

There will also be some adaptations to allow for any future public health measures, including changes to performance rules in GCSE Drama and Dance

Further information will be made available in due course and we will share this with you in a timely and appropriate manner.

For the time being, please be aware that there are also proposed changes to the exam timetable for summer 2021, with GCSEs possibly starting after half term on 7 June 2021. Families should therefore be mindful when booking holidays for summer 2021 that GCSEs will still be taking place in mid-July and possibly up to the end of term, which is Friday, 23rd July. We will confirm dates as soon as these are made available.

Yours sincerely,

Bryan J . McCahey
Assistant Head Teacher

