



Friday 18th February, 2022

### Year 11 and 13 Examination Update

Dear Parents / Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well. I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the recent developments linked to examinations this school year.

To begin with, can I please remind you that by this point all pupils in Year 11 and 13 should have a well structured revision programme in place and be applying a good amount of time to their studies outside of school.

You may be aware that the Department for Education has implemented a package of support for pupils in Year 11 and 13 this year as we move out of the pandemic. Last week we saw the publication of the much anticipated examination pre-release topics and information for teachers and pupils which are an important part of this package.

I wanted to therefore take this opportunity to provide you with an overview of the information that was published and how we plan to use this in school.

### Examinations 2022 & Additional Support

The Department for Education have clearly stated that:

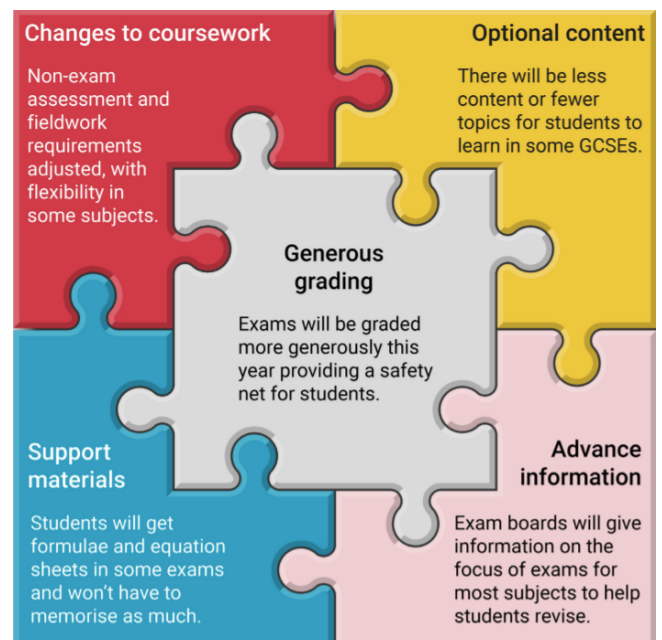
*'Summer exams for GCSEs, AS and A levels will be taking place in 2022 for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Ofqual and the Department for Education recognise the difficulties students may have faced during the pandemic, and changes have been made to this year's arrangements to help students.'*

The support package the Department for Education has put in place is split into five strands:

1. Generous grading
2. Changes to coursework
3. Optional content
4. Support material
5. Advance information

The image to the right has been provided by the Department for Education specifically for pupils and parents and aims to summarise each of these strands.

A full copy of the document this is taken from can be found by using the link below:



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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/additional-help-for-students-taking-exams-in-summer-2022-postcard>

## Grading

Schools have been informed that 2022 will be a 'transition year' in terms of grading and that grades will reflect a 'midway point between 2021 and 2019'. This is something that schools have no control over. Further reading on this can be found using the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ofquals-approach-to-grading-exams-and-assessments-in-summer-2022-and-a-utumn-2021>

## Subject by Subject Support for GCSE and A Level

Strands 2 to 4 from the list above are broken down into subject specific support amendments. This information can be found using the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/subject-by-subject-support-for-gcse-as-and-a-level-students-in-2022>

Please note that there is a lot of information here and there is no expectation that pupils digest all of this. Staff have taken the time to ensure curriculums have been adapted in response to this information, and will be sharing key information directly with their classes in order to ensure revision is focussed in the right areas.

Moving forward I would like to stress the importance of preparation through a structured and well organised revision programme. After half term pupils will complete their Module 2 assessments, this is an ideal opportunity to practice the skills they have learnt and apply the knowledge they have. We will continue to support pupils with revision and prepare them fully for their assessments and formal examinations, however can I please stress the importance of support at home in ensuring revision takes place.

I hope your child has an enjoyable half term break and as always if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Yours sincerely,

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Deputy Headteacher

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