



08 March 2021

Dear Student / Parent / Carer

Awarding of grades 2021 Year 11 , 12 and 13 – Update

We recognise that you will be wanting to know what the awarding of grades will look like this year and how we will be working with all our stakeholders to ensure that it is a fair and equitable process for all our students. The national consultation has now closed and we are working as a school, and as part of our wider Trust, to formalise our approach. We aim to share this then with students, parents and carers soon after 12th March 2021.

All students involved in the awarding of grades this year will be given every opportunity and support to demonstrate what they are capable of and therefore attendance, meeting of deadlines and attitude to learning is of utmost importance; together we will be making every minute of every lesson count.

Evidence in the awarding of grades this year will come from a wealth of sources that the teachers have collated with respect to student individual achievement throughout their KS4 course, including, but not exclusively:

- Class work;
- Practical work / performances;
- In-class assessment;
- Mock assessment;
- Home work;
- Future curriculum assessments.

Whilst the fine detail is being finalised we can confirm that:

- Students are expected to attend school until the official DfE leaving date 25/06/21 (internal SDCC and Atrium date to be confirmed).
- All future curriculum assessment will be conducted in a classroom setting and all students will be supported to access those curriculum assessments ensuring that there is equity, particularly where access arrangements are required.
- Students will only be assessed against the curriculum that has been delivered.
- A robust internal moderation process will be implemented to ensure that grades are fair and equitable and based on student achievement.
- Students will be fully informed of the types of material used to inform the schools' judgements.

We continue to be impressed by how well all our students have managed online teaching whilst recognising the challenges, as well as opportunities, learning from home has presented. Depending on where we are in relation to lockdown, we would still hope to hold celebration events for those students in exam years at the end of the summer term.

We are looking forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday 10th March 2021, to a safe, supportive learning environment. We remain relentless in our approach to delivering high quality teaching and learning, enabling all students to maximise every opportunity to demonstrate what we know they are capable of.

Kind regards

John Bradford
Associate Assistant Headteacher