

23 March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Information about GCSE, AS, BTEC and A Level Grades**

I am writing with information about the GCSE, AS, BTEC and A Level grades that students are due to be awarded this summer. You may have seen the news late on Friday that the Government will be asking teachers to predict students' grades. There is also mention of the possibility of some examinations taking place in September.

The information from the government can be read in full here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-on-exams-and-grades-announced>

We have been sent some information from the examination boards, but it is not yet clear exactly how the grades will be determined or how or when any examinations will take place. The Government's aim is to provide students with final grades in July.

We know that the last week has been very worrying, particularly for our Year 11 and Year 13 students who have worked hard over the last few years to prepare for the summer examinations. This learning will not go to waste and whilst we wait for further guidance to clarify exactly how grades are to be determined, it is really important that students continue to finish each of their courses. Work will be set by class teachers in the lead up to our Easter Holiday which is due to start on Friday 10 April, by which time we hope to have further clarification about the grades.

For students studying broadly coursework based qualifications (BTECs, EPQ etc) it is particularly important that the assignments, units of study and coursework are completed to the best of their ability. Class teachers will be guiding students through this process.

In this uncertain time, we hope that the routines of online learning that were described in our previous letters circulated to parents / carers will be helpful to our students to provide structure and purpose to their day. However, if your child is struggling with their well-being and you would like some advice, please do get in touch. Alternatively, a useful website for young people is [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

We are also aware that for Year 11 and Year 13, last week was not how they had envisaged spending their last few days in school. Please reassure your son / daughter that, when we are able, we will organise our usual end of year celebrations, such as the Prom and Leavers' Masses, so that we can recognise their achievement and contribution to our school community.



I have been in touch with all of the students in Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 via email and that is how I will keep them updated with news about their final grades and about how they will progress onto University, Sixth Form, Apprenticeships or College courses. When we have more information, I will also send out a further letter to you.

We know that this is a challenging time for everyone and can I reiterate the Government advice that, in the interests of everyone's health and safety, **wherever possible students should remain at home in order to adhere to social distancing and minimise the risk of them and others contracting the virus.** We send all of our best wishes to you and your family.

If you or your child have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at: [j.picknell@allsaintslearning.co.uk](mailto:j.picknell@allsaintslearning.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

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