

7<sup>th</sup> December 2020



Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers,

Last week the Government announced the following measures to support pupils in next summer's GCSE and A-level exams. These measures complement the previous announcement, indicating that the main external GCSE exams are delayed by three weeks. I have attached the final summer examination's timetable for your attention with this letter.

The new measures to be put in place include:

- more generous grading than usual, in line with national outcomes from 2020, so students this year are not disadvantaged
- students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE to focus revision
- exam aids - like formula sheets - provided in some exams giving students more confidence and reducing the amount of information they need to memorise
- additional exams to give students a second chance to sit a paper if the main exams or assessments are missed due to illness or self-isolation
- a new expert group to look at differential learning and monitor the variation in the impact of the pandemic on students across the country
- if students miss one or more exams due to self-isolation or sickness but have still completed a proportion of their qualification, they will still receive a grade
- if a student misses all their assessments in a subject, they will have the opportunity to sit a contingency paper held shortly after the main exams. In the extreme case where a student has a legitimate reason to miss all their papers, then a validated teacher informed assessment can be used, only once all chances to sit an exam have passed

In addition to this, there will be one English and one Maths paper which are to be sat in the week before May half term.

English Language paper 1 is provisionally on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Maths Paper 1 is provisionally on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May

We will share this information with your child this week and support them in understanding how these measures will affect them.

You can find the full announcement, including information about Ofsted inspections and primary school tests, here:- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-measures-to-support-students-ahead-of-nextsummers-exams>

Yours sincerely

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