



Monday 29 March 2021

Centre Determined Grades

Dear Parent & Pupil

On Monday 22 March Senior Pupils followed a 'smart – transition' timetable for one week to maximise opportunity for face-to-face teaching with their staff. My conversations with pupils and staff indicated this proved to be both, successful and beneficial to re-connect. Following the Easter Holiday normal timetable will resume (week 1).

Staff are in the school building today and tomorrow making further preparations for Senior Pupils returning on Monday 12 April, who will be joined by the remainder of the school pupil body. Throughout last week it was so encouraging to observe pupil movement, interaction, chatter and face-to-face learning. I have no doubt that pupils in Years 8 – 11 will return to their physical learning environment with the same enthusiasm.

As we moved forward with planning and preparations for Centre Determined Grades staff will be using approximately three to four sources of evidence in every subject to indicate the standard at which pupils are performing, evidence will be based on the content covered only. This will include submitted tasks, pieces of coursework, assignments, previous tracks and exams including the use of some assessment tools when pupils return. The key will be to gather evidence from a variety of sources to support flexibility and provide a range of choice that is manageable and which best reflects the standard of performance for each pupil.

In the Summer Term the Department of Education has allocated two **Qualification Procedure Days:** On these two days, teachers will work on the planning, administration or implementation of the Alternative Awarding Arrangements as directed by the college leadership. The College will be closed to all pupils and there will be no face-to-face or remote teaching.

These dates are Tuesday **11 May 2021** and Monday **24 May 2021**.

There has been much discussion about the number of assessments pupils could experience. The College Exams Officers are running 'assessment control checks' and 'pupil experience checks' to ensure that any assessment tools are balanced and spread to both, optimise and maximise the opportunities for Senior Pupils. Having a child in Year 12 I can fully empathise with pupils and parents. Careful management will be given due consideration.



Year 12

Pupils in Year 12 will have an assessment window from 19 April 2021 – 14 May 2021 during which, evidence will be gathered to support a Centre Determined Grade. Assessment window information will be posted on the Year 12 Form Class Google Classroom tomorrow afternoon. Upon return on Monday 12 April Registration will be frozen during period 1 where pupils will work through their assessment window with their Registration Staff.

Year 13 & Year 14

Pupils in Year 13 & Year 14 following AS and A2 courses will have an assessment window from 12 April 2021 – 5 May 2021 during which, evidence will be gathered to support a Centre Determined Grade. Assessment window information will be posted on the Year 13/14 Form Class Google Classroom tomorrow afternoon. Upon return on Monday 12 April Registration will be frozen during period 1 where pupils will work through their assessment window with their Registration Staff.

Pupils in Year 14 following BTEC courses: Qualification-level Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs). As previously suggest, these evidence points will be assignment based.

Pupils in Year 13 following BTEC courses: Pupils will have a reduced subject content which be considered and reflected in the Award of Grade in Year 14 August 2022.

To give **all Senior School Pupils** the best opportunity, these assessment windows will be carefully managed by our examination officers, avoiding multiple assessments on any given day allowing pupils to optimise their outcomes.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a restful Easter Break.

Take Care and Stay Safe!

Yours sincerely

Niall Oliver
Principal