



**Our Ref:** SCU|NMO|107

30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Teacher Assessed Grades**

As you will be aware Year 11, 12 and 13 students are not sitting external examinations this summer as a result of the disruption caused by Covid-19 which resulted in missed curriculum time and face to face learning. As communicated earlier in the year, grades for GCSEs and A levels will be based on a process involving teacher assessment against national standards, internal quality assurance by the school and external quality assurance by the exam boards. This national process has been defined by the Department for Education and the exams' regulator Ofqual.

As we move through Term 5, students will complete their final pieces of assessment. This letter will provide references to key documents that I would strongly recommend that you read to ensure that you are fully informed on the process being adopted nationally.

### **Awarding of GCSE and A Level Grades 2021**

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has produced guidance for students, parents and carers that outlines how qualification grades will be awarded this summer. It provides comprehensive detail on the process that schools must adopt nationally, including a section on the appeals process and associated timelines:

[Guidance for students, parents and guardians: GCSEs and AS/A Levels in England Summer 2021](#)

In addition, all schools must have their own policy which sets out the approach that they will take in the awarding of GCSE and A level grades this summer following the JCQ guidance. Rednock School's Centre Policy can be found by clicking [here](#).

Later this term, we will communicate details of which pieces of work each department will be using to inform each student's Teacher Assessed Grade.

We are also requesting details of any mitigating circumstances which the School may need to consider in the process of creating the Teacher Assessed Grades

### **Special Consideration for 2021 Qualifications**

The usual process of schools submitting special consideration applications to exam boards for qualifications will not apply this summer.

In a normal exam year:

- Special consideration is a post-examination adjustment to a candidate's mark or grade. This is to reflect temporary illness, temporary injury or some other event outside of the candidate's control at the time of the assessment. It is applied when the issue or event has had, or is reasonably likely to have had, a material effect on a candidate's ability to take an assessment or demonstrate his or her normal level of attainment in an assessment.

Head Teacher - David Alexander BA (Hons); MSc

- Special consideration can go some way to assist a candidate affected by a potentially wide range of difficulties, emotional or physical, which may influence performance in their examinations. It cannot remove the difficulty faced by the candidate.

[Special Consideration - Summer 2021](http://jcq.org.uk) (jcq.org.uk)

This year, the range of evidence schools can use to determine students' Teacher Assessed Grades students has some flexibility, so we expect instances of special consideration to be limited. Where possible, the School will select work completed by a student where they were unaffected by adverse circumstances. Where this is not possible, and where an event or circumstances outside of the student's control may have affected their performance in assessments, the School will consider the circumstances and if satisfied that they had an adverse effect, will take this into account by adopting the principles in the JCQ guide referred to above. Special consideration cannot be applied due to lost teaching and learning.

If you think that a performance in an assessment has been adversely affected by illness or personal circumstances, you should let the school know as soon as possible. It is important that you raise any such instances before the school submits grades. Please complete the google form linked below **no later than 24th May 2021**.

- [Special Considerations for Summer 2021 Candidates Google Form](#)

You should include the student's full name, the nature of the illness or personal circumstances, the date they occurred, and any additional information

Some of you will have already been in contact with the School regarding your or your child's personal circumstances but I will still need to know the dates of the issue and the assessments that were affected.

#### **Results Day Dates:**

The Teacher Assessed Grades submitted to the exam boards cannot be communicated to students until results days.

Students will receive their GCSE and A-Level results earlier than in previous years:

- **A-Level and AS-Level Results - Tuesday 10th August**
- **GCSE Results - Thursday 12th August**

Arrangements for results day will be communicated in due course including how you can access your results should you not be able to pick them up in person on the revised dates.

#### **Appeals:**

There will be an opportunity for students to appeal their awarded grades and this process is outlined on pages 6 and 7 in the JCQ guidance for students, parents and guardians document:

[Guidance for students, parents and guardians: GCSEs and AS/A Levels in England Summer 2021](#)

The School's process for appeals will be communicated in due course. Please note that depending on the outcome of the appeal, the student's grade may go down, up or stay the same.

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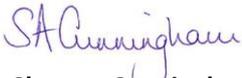
Thank you for taking the time to read this information. I will be delivering a Year 11 assembly over the next few days outlining the Teacher Assessed Grades process. If you or your child have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Finally, the Year 13 Celebration Day will be on **Thursday 27th May** and will mark the end of the students' time at Rednock School. The Sixth Form team will be confirming the details of this event in a separate letter to the parents of Year 13 students. The Year 11 students will be leaving school on **Friday 28th May** and a celebration assembly on this day will officially mark the end of students' time in Key Stage 4. In Term 6, there will be a variety of activities to support Year 11 students with their post-16 progression routes and I will send more details about this at a later date.

Please continue to communicate with us so that we can support you and your child throughout the rest of the academic year and beyond.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend,

Regards,



**Dr Sharron Cunningham**  
Deputy Head Teacher

Head Teacher - David Alexander BA (Hons); MSc

