



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

25th March 2020

Dear Parent,

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you about your son/daughter's GCSE grades.

Before I explain that, I just wanted to say what an absolute pleasure it has been to be the headteacher for them for the last three years. I know the last few weeks have been very strange and extremely stressful for many people, but especially for Year 11. I want to repeat the message I gave them in our 'goodbye' on Friday afternoon - I am very proud of them and have been so impressed with the mature way that they have dealt with everything that has been thrown at them. They have definitely shown the rest of the school how to 'Shine brighter than you thought you could!' I am sad and disappointed for them that they haven't had the full Year 11 and the chance to show how amazing they are in their exams. I want you to know that despite their early finish, the staff at Winstanley really care about them and want them to have the absolute best in their future. I also want to say thank you so much for your support and working in partnership with us with us - it has been vital in enabling them to grow into the amazing young adults they are becoming.

How your GCSE grades will be calculated:

This how the government has said they will do this:

Step 1 - The awarding bodies will be asking teachers to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead

Step 2 - To produce the above, teachers will take into account a range of evidence and data including performance in mock exams and non-exam assessment

Step 3 - The exam boards will then combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment, and use this information to produce a calculated grade for each student, which will be a best assessment of the work they have put in

Step 4 - Calculated grades will aim to be provided to students before the end of July

Step 5 - If students do not believe the correct process has been followed in their case they will be able to appeal on that basis

Step 6 - If students do not feel their calculated grade reflects their performance, they will have the opportunity to sit an exam at the earliest reasonable opportunity, once schools are open again. Students will also have the option to sit their exams in summer 2021

Address: Kingsway North, Braunstone Town, Leicestershire, LE3 3BD

Telephone: 0116 289 8688

Email: office@winstanleyschool.org.uk

Web: winstanleyschool.org.uk

Social media:   



Executive Head Chris Parkinson. **Head of School** Dave Bennett. **Deputy Head of School** Fiona Le Cras.

Assistant Heads of School Wesley Collins. Annabel Roberts. Jason Scrimshire

Registered in England and Wales . Registered No: 07992438 . Part of the LiFE Multi Academy Trust


Implications for the students:

- They need to stick to their plans and keep working hard - it will be good for their own wellbeing and will ensure this time is productive
- They need to work especially hard on subjects where their predicted grades are low. If they show your teacher they are working hard and hand in higher grade work, it should have a positive impact on the predicted grades teachers give them
- Working hard in these subjects will also enable them to prepare well for the exams that will be held early when we return in the autumn. If they don't work hard over this time they will have no chance of doing better in these exams.
- Also they should start to think about the subjects that they want to study at College/Post 16 and start to prepare for them. We will try to get hold of some bridging work that will help them prepare for the next stage of their studies.

I know the whole situation is far from ideal, but I hope my explanation makes sense. There may be more details about this, and if there is, I will share them with you as soon as I am given them. I know it is a confusing time and I am sure many of you are frustrated that your son/daughter hasn't got a normal end to the year, but please keep working with them to keep them going. We will keep setting them work and encouraging them. If you do have any questions about anything, please do get back to me.

Finally, I just want to wish you all well and trust that despite all the difficulties and challenges you are facing that you will know peace and health over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Dave Bennett', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dave Bennett
Head of School