



2 March 2021

Dear Students/Parents/Carers,

We wanted to inform you of the latest information about grades for GCSE/AS and A level this summer.

Gavin Williamson, the Education Secretary announced that students will receive *grades awarded and determined by teachers* using a combination of trial exams, coursework, essays and in class tests. No algorithms will be used. Teachers will be expected to award grades based on their professional judgement, *drawing on evidence available*. It has been stated that students will only be graded on content they have already studied. There will be *optional* tasks set by exam boards for all subjects, but they will not be taken in exam conditions nor decide final grades.

It has also been confirmed that the plans to have students appeal to schools first, if they suspect an error in their grades, will go ahead. To try and mitigate against any errors, the quality assurance process that schools will undertake will be signed off by exam boards prior to grades being submitted. If schools submit grades that look unusual (either too high or too low against past performance), this could trigger a visit by the exam board to check the processes carried out in determining the grade.

Teachers are required to submit grades to exam boards by 18 June, allowing as much teaching time as possible before teachers make their assessments.

Results days have also been moved to Tues 10 August for A-levels and Thurs 12 August for GCSEs. These are different dates than previously published.

What will happen at Brookvale Groby?

- We look forward to welcoming students back during the week beginning 8th March
- Our priority is to continue to provide excellent and engaging lessons for all students
- We will continue to assess students in the same way we always would have if a pandemic had not occurred, by assessing class work, coursework and revisiting topics where there are misconceptions.
- Plans for the year 11 core mock exams that *were* scheduled have been revised

The following table gives our new revised assessment schedule, which applies to both Year 11 and 13:

08 Mar - 12 Mar	Return to school				
15 Mar - 19 Mar					
22 Mar - 26 Mar	Mock exam catch up / Tier entry assessment / coursework catch up				
29 Mar - 02 Apr	Easter Break				
05 Apr - 09 Apr					
12 Apr - 16 Apr	Mock exam catch up /coursework catch up				
19 Apr - 23 Apr					
26 Apr - 30 Apr					
03 May - 07 May	Bank Holiday – May Day				
10 May - 14 May	Final assessments				
17 May - 21 May	Final assessments				
24 May - 28 May	Final assessments				
31 May - 4 June	Mid term break				
7 June - 11 June	Assessment buffer week				

Lessons will continue as normal and may contain mini assessments. Students will be made aware in advance about any assessments, including knowing the topic/skills areas they are being assessed on.

I have attached the year 11 assembly that goes through this schedule and gives more detail about the range of evidence we will use to determine final grades - [YEAR 11 ASSEMBLY](#). The same messages apply to Year 13 students with the exception of the date of results day (10th August for A-levels.)

The advice to all students remains the same; ensure attendance is great and do your best in the lessons and in your home learning. Last, but certainly not least, continue to develop all of the other great skills that have been refined over these lockdown months, such as independence, creativity and resilience.

As you will appreciate this process will demand a lot of time from our staff that would typically have been undertaken by the exam boards, so we would ask for your support and patience at this time.

We are fortunate to have a number of experienced examiners, some senior, on our staff body who will support in ensuring that the process is both fair and rigorous.

Kind regards



Carol Hubbard
Deputy Headteacher