



7th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Wednesday 6 January 2021 the Secretary of State confirmed that students will not be asked to sit GCSE and A/AS Level exams this summer and instead be awarded teacher-assessed grades. The details of how these grades will be decided are still under review and a plan is being drawn up by the Secretary of State in consultation with Ofqual to ensure grades are awarded fairly and consistently. We are also still awaiting clarification on plans for vocational subjects and their exams in the summer.

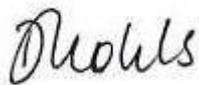
As we are preparing for teacher-assessed grades, it is important for students to understand what will be expected of them between now and the summer.

- We are expecting students to be back in school for lessons some time after February half term. In the meantime it is important that students fully engage with remote learning.
- Courses have not yet been completed and teachers are continuing to teach new content.
- Teachers currently do not hold sufficient assessment data to produce a valid teacher-assessed grade and will continue to assess students. The Progress Update 1 grades such as 'projected grade', 'current assessment' or 'predicted grade' are not the final teacher-assessed grades. Between now and the summer teachers will continue to assess and update the predicted grade which may go up or down, depending on a student's effort and engagement.
- As previously communicated, the scheduled mock examinations for year 13 students will be replaced by an assessment week next week during which teachers will set students one assessment per subject.
- The scheduled mock examinations for year 11 students will be replaced by an assessment week during which teachers will set students one assessment per subject. This assessment week will take place during the first week in March. Students will receive further information about these assessments next week to ensure they are fully prepared. The last thing we want is for students to fail to produce the quality of work they are capable of and, as a result not be awarded a teacher-assessed grade they were hoping for. All teacher-assessed grades will be moderated to ensure there is compelling evidence to substantiate the award of that particular grade.
- Early indications are that students will be awarded their teacher-assessed grades in mid- to end August. A final day of learning has not yet been confirmed and as soon as we have clarification on this, we will provide a final leaving date.

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We understand that this is a very unsettling time for students and that they will be disappointed that all examinations have been cancelled. However, we know that our students will rise to this challenge and do all that is necessary to ensure that there are no limits to what they can achieve this summer.

Yours faithfully,



Ms D Kohls

Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Z Armitage

Deputy Headteacher

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Lemsford Lane, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL8 6YR

Tel: 01707 321755 • admin@stanborough.herts.sch.uk • www.stanborough.herts.sch.uk • Company No: 07900439