

Tuesday 23rd November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

The vast majority of year 10 students are sitting their RE GCSE this summer so I am writing to you to outline arrangements and contingency plans that have been published by the government in response to the disruption caused by the pandemic.

It has been announced that grade boundaries will be set so that more students receive higher grades than before the pandemic, providing a safety net in this transition year.

The government has repeatedly stated that it is fully committed to ensuring that GCSE exams go ahead as normal in 2022. However, in the unlikely event that they are cancelled, contingency plans have stated that students' grades will be determined by their teachers using a Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) approach similar to that used in 2021.

We have been advised that evidence for the TAGs should be produced under exam conditions and that students should be made aware prior to the assessment that the result could be used as evidence when arriving at a TAG.

Consequently, I am writing to let you know that the grade in the December RE mock exam will be used as one of the pieces of evidence when arriving at a TAG should the exam be cancelled. In this extremely unlikely event, we will also plan later assessments to ensure that the final grade awarded is based on a number of pieces of evidence. The guidance has suggested assessing again in the spring term of 2022 and in the first half of the summer term. While it is unlikely that we would deviate significantly from this, we will communicate the exact dates in good time so as to ensure that students are well prepared.

Please be aware that while we have a professional obligation to outline the TAGs contingency plan, we are fairly certain that GCSE exams will go ahead as planned and firmly believe this is the right thing for students. We are also confident that the year group will continue to make strong progress and will go on to achieve an excellent set of results in the summer. Please do email david.greene@chelsea-academy.org if you have any questions about the information in this letter or if you would like more information as to how you can best support your son or daughter in year 10.

Yours faithfully,



Dr D Greene
Assistant Principal