



11 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

January 2021 Year 11 Trial Results

Today, Year 11 students have been given both their trial examination results and their forecast grades, based upon their work in class and the trials results; these results are available to students and parents on Insight. Both sets of grades should give students and parents a benchmark of current progress and should form the basis of plans going forward. Using these, students should construct detailed revision plans and continue good habits formed before the trial examinations.

In the virtual assembly this afternoon, we have emphasised the following messages to your child:

- The trial examinations grade is a snapshot in time - it is not a predictor of success, but a diagnostic tool used to identify what and how they need to improve
- The 'forecast grade' is an indication of a potential grade that your child might achieve in the summer, if they took on board teacher advice, and reflecting their work rate until now. It is not a final prediction; every year, even in normal circumstances, we see some students outstrip their January forecast grades with focused effort; and, unfortunately, some students do not achieve their forecast grades because they fail to take on board teacher feedback. The trial exams have provided an indication of success, but have not tested the entire syllabus for most subjects - therefore the forecast grades are not a guarantee, and are conditional on hard work.

Whilst we await the consultation from Ofqual on the form and shape that 'teacher-assessed' grades will take in the summer, including what externally-set testing may be required, it is important that your child continues to work hard and creates revision material through the online lessons being delivered; teachers are continuing to gather evidence to help inform whatever system of grading may be in place for the summer.

If you are concerned about your son/daughter's results, please contact the class teacher for a particular subject in the first instance or, if your concern is across several subjects or relating to revision, Mrs Kingston or Miss Gee will be happy to help. As discussed in previous communication, a second virtual Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening for a number of students will be held on Thursday 28 January, and those families will be contacted separately.

We are currently putting on hold the two subject-based Raising Achievement Evenings for parents, scheduled for the 14th and 28th January, and will modify these when we know more about the summer process. In their place, **we are delighted to fund the following opportunity for parents/carers of Year 10 and 11 students, conceived to support learning in these times of adversity.**

'Motivation Reframed': webinar on Thursday 28 January 2021 at 7.00pm

The highly regarded Dr Martijn Van der Spoel will deliver a live presentation designed to re-invigorate student motivation in these challenging times.

Does your child ...

- find it challenging to generate motivation to study?
- find it difficult to develop effective revision routines?
- find it hard to engage with the curriculum recovery programme?

Parents/carers will leave this session with practical ways to instil, encourage and embed positive study behaviours at home.

The session includes extra optional materials that parents can download to help them assist in conversations with their children.

In order to attend this session please sign up at the following link before 27 January and Zoom joining instructions will be sent out to you before the event:

[Motivation Reframed Booking Form](#)

Finally, we will be contacting those students who have applied to Sixth Form within the next week to arrange online appointments to discuss their choices; and with those students who have not applied to ensure they are supported in securing the next stage of their education, employment or training.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Peters
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs R Kingston
Assistant Headteacher



Miss S Gee
Head of Year 11