

21 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you again to give you further information regarding the determination of this summer's examination grades.

The link below takes you to a guide designed for students and parents, regarding the process schools will go through when determining grades [JCQ-Guidance-for-Students-and-Parents-on-Summer-2021.pdf](#).

Subject teachers will initially determine student grades, which will then be reviewed by the school. The professional judgement of teachers will only be based on what students have been taught and the teachers will use a range of evidence from across the course of study to make their decision.

Teachers can assess based on:

- Records of performance on the content taught over the entire course of study.
- Non-exam assessment, often referred to as coursework or internal assessments, even if not fully completed.
- Work produced in tasks set by the school or college that reflects the specification, format and marking of exam boards. This could include substantial classwork, homework, internal tests or mock exams.

Schools also have the option to set tests in order to gather further evidence. Teachers can develop these tests or use assessment materials provided by the exam boards. Importantly, these tests are not formal exams, nor are they designed to play the role of exams. Teachers do not need to assess students on every aspect of each subject. They just need a range of evidence that shows a student's performance on the aspects they have been taught.

In most cases, the range of evidence that teachers use to inform student's grade will be consistent across the class or cohort for each qualification. However, the school may decide that a different range of evidence may be more appropriate to fairly inform your grade, if, for example, some students have missed significantly more teaching than others in class.

In addition to the previous information regarding [Year 11 Assessments](#), JCQ have released further guidance this week stating that schools must share with parents the information used for them to arrive at their grades. The [Evidence Map](#) tables show the range of evidence being used for each qualification studied in Year 11, 12 and 13.

If you feel that we need to be aware of any circumstances that might have prevented access to the teaching and learning required for success, we are able to consider this when deciding which assessment evidence to use. If you think that there is anything we need to know please email detailed information outlining the circumstances and the relevant dates. This information will be very helpful to us in determining student grades. You may be contacted for further details if required:-

Year 12 & 13 contact a.sharp@jws.bham.sch.uk

Year 11 contact n.noreen@jws.bham.sch.uk

The majority of students will no longer be required to attend school from 28 May. The final grade data does not need to be entered to the exam board until 18 June, students may therefore be required to come into

school up until this time if it is felt that extra evidence is needed. It is vital that students take all the opportunities available to them to gain the very best results that they can.

All students will be provided with home learning packs after 28 May to allow them to cover aspects of the courses that they have missed. There will be bridging units available throughout this time to support the transition from GCSEs and in preparation for studying Level 3 courses in September.

In addition to this we will be providing face to face education on 29 and 30 June. This will include some level 3 teaching in the subjects which may be selected at A Level as well as some higher education planning and wider level 3 skills. There will also be some team building activities for those students who will be continuing in our sixth form or elsewhere.

We are very proud of how hard our students have worked during this challenging time. We understand how difficult this has been for them and want to congratulate them on their positive attitude and resilience in these final weeks of the school year.

Yours faithfully

Mrs T Peters
Headteacher