



# Tomlinscote School

4<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020, Ofqual published their GCSE grading guidance. I have summarised a few details below in this letter and I have also attached two documents for extra guidance.

1. The letter to students – Summer 2020 grading.
2. Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers.

Essentially, for this summer's awards, schools are being asked to provide centre assessment grades for their students. **These grades will be considered professional judgements of the grades that schools believe their students would have been most likely to achieve if they had sat their exams and completed any non-exam assessments.** These professional judgements should balance different sources of evidence such as:

- classwork
- bookwork
- any participation in performances in subjects such as Music, Drama or PE
- any non-exam assessment – whether or not completed
- the results of any assignments or mock exams

***Consequently, I will expect every Year 11 to bring their Year 10 and Year 11 exercise books, mock papers, assessments and any other course material to school after the Easter holiday period. This will allow teachers to have all the evidence in front of them in order to make a professional judgement. How we can achieve this in a safe and timely fashion needs to be considered. I will write to everyone soon to let you know how this will be managed and when.***

***Please speak to your son/daughter to let them know this will happen and that they need to get their materials/books organised over the Easter period.***

***Some students still have non-examined work to submit to their teachers in subjects like Media, Art, Photography, Drama and Dance. Students must try to complete this if they can and submit it as soon as possible.***

When the grades have been determined, the teachers are required to rank the students. This rank will occur within each grade for each subject. For example, Rank 1 in Grade 5 will be that student who is most secure/highest attaining etc.

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The grades and rank positions of the students will then be submitted to the exam boards and there will be a process of statistical standardisation of the schools' judgements using a model developed by Ofqual. This will occur in order to ensure grades are as fair as possible across schools. The school has been told that they must not share their centre assessment grades with students, parents or carers, under any circumstances, until after the final results are issued. This is because the exam board process could lead to results going up or down.

It is expected that students will receive their grades in August, although Ofqual have said it could be earlier. When I have an accurate date, I will let you know. The students will be able to make an appeal to the exam board and they will be able to sit the exam in the Autumn term or next Summer 2021. Again, Ofqual need to provide further details on each of these.

I am sure that there will be further updates over the next few weeks and I will share these with you. I have also emailed your son/daughter with Ofqual's letter to students and a copy of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Major  
Principal