

"Opening Children's Eyes to the Wonderful World of Possibilities"

The Rudheath Senior Academy - Part of North West Academies Trust

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Head Teacher: Mr L M Barber

15th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer.

Our Year 11 students have recently completed their first set of mock examinations to help prepare them for Summer 2022. Their attendance and behaviour during this period have been exemplary.

In line with guidance from OFQUAL, the exams regulator and the Department of Education (DfE) we are able to share results from these assessments with our students, which we look forward to doing after the Christmas break. Results will be handed out during an extended morning registration on Wednesday 5th January 2022. Our staff will be available during the morning as well as colleagues from local colleges who will be on hand to offer any help, advice and support our students may need.

Students will also receive diagnostic feedback on areas where they are secure/unsecure to help support them with future learning. Further work will be carried out in subjects to help close any gaps that may exist. Grades are indicative of the current test performance and are not Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG) at present.

In the unlikely event that exams are cancelled again because of the pandemic, the DfE has issued a <u>contingency plan</u> whereby grades would instead be determined by their teachers, using TAGs. TAGs are based on teachers' assessment of their students work throughout the year.

With the omission of any further announcements from the Department for Education (DfE) and the exams regulator Ofqual, at present, it is expected that exams will take place for Year 11 students in the summer, with any non-exam assessments taking place in the usual way throughout the year. The next set of assessments planned for Year 11 students will take place during mid-March 2022. If TAGs are needed to replace exams, further assessments will be arranged in early summer to helps provide teachers with the evidence needed to support them.

As previously communicated, in recognition of the fact that student's education has been disrupted by the pandemic, extra help will be given to prepare students for their exams as confirmed following a joint DfE and Ofqual consultation. Advance information for GCSEs will be published no later than 7 February 2022.

Ofqual has decided that for the exams due to be taken in summer 2022, grade boundaries will be set so that more students than was the case before the pandemic receive higher grades, providing a safety net for students in this transitionary year.

For further information please refer to the <u>letter published by Jo Saxton</u>, Ofqual's Chief Regulator.

We are doing everything we can to support your son/daughter during these uncertain times.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Julie-Ann Wilson

Deputy Head Teacher

