



# CENTRAL FOUNDATION BOYS' SCHOOL

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Year 11 and 13 Students,

## **Re: Awarding of Grades – GCSE, A Level and Vocational Qualifications**

I appreciate that this may well be a very anxious time for you with regard to your exam results. I am very sorry that you have had to experience this. We have now received official guidance as to how your grades will be determined and I want to provide you with this information.

### **How will your grades be calculated?**

The school will be asked to send the exam boards two pieces of information for each of the subjects you were to take:

- the grade for each subject the school believes you **would have been most likely to have achieved if you had taken your exam and completed any non-exam assessment this summer**. This grade is known as the centre assessed grade.
- within each subject, the order of the students by performance for each grade. For example, for all those students with a grade of 5 in GCSE maths, or a grade B in A level biology, a rank order where 1 is the most secure/highest attaining student, and so on.

### **How will the school determine your centre assessed grade and rank order within the grade?**

In determining your grade the school will consider a number of pieces of evidence:-

- your performance in your 'pre-public exams' (mock exams) and other exam style assessments you completed.
- records of your performance over the course of study, including for example progress review data, classwork, bookwork, homework, and/or participation in performances in subjects such as music, drama and PE
- your performance on any non-exam assessment (NEA), even if this has not been fully completed.

### **Approach for vocational qualifications**

We expect the approach to be very similar to the one for GCSEs and A levels. The school will provide a grade and rank order for you, taking into account your expected performance in examination units and the non-examination work that had been completed up to the 20<sup>th</sup> March.

HEADTEACHER: JAMIE BROWNHILL

CENTRAL FOUNDATION BOYS' SCHOOL, COWPER STREET, LONDON, EC2A 4SH

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## **How will access arrangements and requests for special consideration be dealt with?**

If you had access arrangements for your exam, such as a scribe or extra time, the judgement the school makes will take account your likely achievement with the access arrangements in place.

If you were unwell during the exams, and so missed an exam, or suffered a traumatic event that might affect your performance, the school could normally apply for this to be taken into account when the exam board awarded you a grade. This will not apply this summer, instead the judgement we make will reflect how you would have performed under ordinary circumstances. Where you were ill or experienced other personal circumstances that might have affected performance in mock exams, or other work that is to be considered as evidence, we will take this into account when making our judgements.

## **How will the school determine the rank order for students within grades and what is the purpose of the rank order?**

The school will provide a rank order of students within each grade. Where there is more than one class taking a subject, a rank order will be needed for all students who are taking that subject at the school. The evidence used to establish the rank order is the same as the evidence used for establishing the centre assessed grade. If two or more students are almost indistinguishable in terms of their subject performance then it may be very difficult to put them into a rank order. However, exam boards are requiring schools to provide a single rank order for all students. Tied ranks cannot be provided.

The rank order will be used by the exam boards in their standardisation of each school's results. If the exam board consider that the grades allocated by the school are, as a whole, too low they will alter the grades by moving students up grades. They will use the rank order provided by the school to identify the students to be moved up a grade. The process will operate in reverse if the exam boards consider that the allocation of the school's grades is too generous.

## **Do you need to complete any new work for the school to submit a grade?**

We will not be taking into account any work that was submitted, or requested to be submitted, after the 20<sup>th</sup> March. In the case of non-examination assessment work, you will not be asked to complete your NEA work and the marks will not be needed to be submitted to exam boards.

## **Can the grades and rank order submitted by the school for a student be seen by you or your parents/ carers?**

We are not allowed to provide any information in respect of grades and rank order to you or your parents or carers.

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Teachers, or anyone else at the school, should not be approached to provide grades or the rank order prior to the publication of the results.

## When will I get my results?

The dates for the release of exam results have been confirmed as the original dates that had been set:-

**A levels** -Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August

**GCSEs** - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August

We will hand out results to students in the same way as we have done in previous years. Mr Samuel, for Year 13 students, and Mr Barker, for Year 11 students, will be writing to you to explain how the UCAS process and access to Sixth Form providers, including our own Sixth Form, will operate this year.

## Statistical Standardisation

**The grades sent off by the school will not necessarily be the grades awarded to you.** The exam boards will carry out a process of statistical standardisation in an attempt to ensure that there is a standardisation in the grades that are awarded across all schools nationally.

## Can I take my exams another time?

The government has told us that you will have the opportunity to take the exams in the autumn of 2020. You will be able to choose which subjects you take. The higher of the two grades, the grade awarded in August and the grade achieved in the autumn, will be the official grade you get. If you achieve a lower grade in the autumn, then you will be able to keep the grade you were awarded in August.

## Further information

We will be contacting you and your parents over the next two weeks to answer any questions that they may have. You can also use the contacts below if you have any immediate questions.

Year 11 – Mr Dilley – [dilleym@cfbs.islington.sch.uk](mailto:dilleym@cfbs.islington.sch.uk)

Year 13 – Mr Barker – [barkerc@cfbs.islington.sch.uk](mailto:barkerc@cfbs.islington.sch.uk)

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## **Year 11 and Year 13 work**

We want you to complete your courses. We want you to do this because we think it is important that you have acquired all of the knowledge intended and we also want you to be in a good position to sit the exams in the autumn, if you choose to do so. All courses will be completed by the 18<sup>th</sup> May. At that point you will be able to follow a revision programme for each course.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Brownhill  
Headteacher

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