

23 March 2020

Dear students and parents/guardians,

The government issued some information about the grade awarding process - see [here](#). Please make sure that you read this carefully, so you are fully informed.

GCSE and Year 13 A level courses

Any content that has not yet been taught will continue to be taught, but you will not be set any new formal assessments. It is important to continue covering this content and consolidating because the government has said that students will have the opportunity to sit an exam at some point in the future if they want to (at the start of the next academic year or next summer). We do not want you to complete any assessed work (e.g. mock assessments at home) because they are not being completed in controlled conditions. We feel it is possible that a student could submit work that is not their own in a bid to increase their predicted grade and this is therefore not fair on all students.

If you have been taught all of the content on your course, then your teacher should continue to be available to support you if you request it. You are also encouraged to continue with your consolidation.

Subjects with non-examined assessment (NEA) - The calculated grade process will take into account a range of evidence including non-examined assessment, so work that has been submitted will be marked as normal.

Level 2 and second years on Level 3 vocational courses

Content on remaining internally assessed units should continue to be covered and assessments completed accordingly. Priority marking will be given to previously submitted or resubmitted work to ensure units are completed uniformly across programmes. Moderation and verification processes are continuing with awarding bodies.

Those subjects with externally assessed units should follow the A level/GCSE advice with regards to what work should be covered to mirror the support that you may need should you wish to take up the opportunity to sit an exam in the future.

Mock results

Many subjects have already given back your mock grades. If you were not present in these lessons, teachers can release mock marks or grades if you request it. If you are receiving your mock mark or grade via email, please be aware that if you do not get the grade or mark you were hoping for, this is one piece of information amongst many that will inform any decision about your final grade that might be awarded.

Teachers will be asked to take into account a range of evidence and data when awarding grades to the exam board. In addition, the exam board will combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment, to ensure that grade decisions are fair. More information can be found [here](#).

Predicted grades

Please do not engage in discussion with your teacher about your predicted grade. If you are seeking further information about the grade awarding process, please visit the government's [webpage](#). We don't know anything more than is stated there.

Finally

We will continue to update you if anything changes, or if any additional guidance is provided by the government or exam boards.

If you can stick to a routine in terms of your studying, it would be helpful both educationally and in terms of your mental health. The information and resources on the [VESPA Mindset website](#) may be of use to you. Click the 'Enroll Now' button and follow the steps.

I hope to continue to communicate with you on a regular basis if possible.

Best wishes,

Catherine Cole
Principal