



The Friary School

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Greywood
Multi-Schools Trust

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Dear Parent / Guardian,

RE: How Will Qualifications Be Awarded in Summer 2021 ?

Amidst the focus on re-opening schools and mass testing, we have all been awaiting the Department for Education's (DfE) direction on how qualifications will be graded in Summer 2021 for Year 11 and Year 13 students.

This has been a protracted process with a lengthy consultation, followed by the DfE guidance, then OFQUAL (the exam regulator) giving their instructions, then the Exam Boards too, and finally it gets down to you and I.

Of course, whatever approach was decided upon was going to come with pluses and minuses, but it is perhaps no surprise that the Minister for Education, Gavin Williamson, has put last year's algorithm to one side and elected to direct teachers to determine the grades.

This means that there will be no formal exams this summer. Instead, teachers will use a "range of evidence" to judge what grade to award your child.

Consequently, I have enclosed a copy of your child's report grades so you can see again what we have been predicting for your child this year. This information is based on their progress through their courses and gives you a very clear indication of what grades they are likely to achieve this summer.

I have also enclosed a detailed booklet which explains how our remaining time in school will be used to inform our school judgements. The key message is that though the parameters are pretty much there, specific grades are not, and there is still potentially much to gain from working hard.

We are planning to publish specific guidance in W/B 22 March so that you can see how every subject will run through and we will also stage a Facebook Live event where you can view a 'live' and updated explanation of what is going on and fire in any questions.

Your child has faced a tough time of it over the last twelve months and, though we cannot guarantee this process will be entirely stress-free, we are determined to be as clear and transparent as is possible

The last few weeks are going to be a challenge for us all but with clarity, patience and mutual support we can make the most of them.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Matt Allman
Headteacher