



Rossett School

Success for everyone

22 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

This letter, together with our previous letters to parents, dated 25th March, (found [here](#)), contains the detailed information about the arrangements for determining qualification grades this summer.

Our previous letter outlined the process to be used at Rossett School. On Friday 26th March, The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) released additional information regarding their expectations of schools, alongside guidance for students, parents and carers. This publication confirms that the process to be used at Rossett School meets national expectations. The JCQ guidance can be viewed [here](#). Students in Year 10-13 have also listened to an assembly this morning, that covers the key points from this letter. A recording of that assembly can be found [here](#).

Details of assessments that will be used to generate grades

As previously explained, grades in the Summer of 2021 will be generated using current assessment information within each subject area. These assessments fall into one of four categories:

1. Pre-Easter Assessment – these are assessments previously completed by the students (for example Year 11 December Assessments).
2. In-Class Assessments – these assessments are being conducted at present (between 12th April – 7th May). The previously published timetable of when these assessments are occurring can be found in the link below.
3. Extended Assessments – these assessments (between 10th May – 28th May) are slightly longer and will be held in the Sports Hall, so that all of the students can be assessed at the same time in each of their subjects. Our extended assessment timetable has been finalised and can also be found in the link below.
4. Non-Examination Assessments (NEA) – NEA (coursework) will continue to form an important part of the assessment portfolio in subject areas where this is relevant.

Please review the document found in the link below (Assessment Summary by key stage) which clearly shows the assessments that will be used to generate the overall grade in each subject area.

Click [here](#) for all relevant documents.

Assessment Materials

As you may have seen in the national press, exam boards have released a range of assessment materials for schools to use during this half term. These materials are made available publicly and can be found at the following examination board websites:

AQA - <https://www.aqa.org.uk/2021-exam-changes/get-ready-for-grading>

Pearson - <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/campaigns/summer-2021-support/support-for-students-parents-and-carers.html>

OCR - <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/past-paper-finder/>

WJEC - <https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/student-support/past-papers/>

www.rossettschool.co.uk

Rossett School, Green Lane, Harrogate HG2 9JP T: 01423 564444 F: 01423 502301 E: office@rossettschool.co.uk

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Both the 'in-class assessments' and the 'extended assessments' that we are running in each subject area will make use of some of these assessment materials, as well as our own, internally generated, resources.

Generating a final grade

JCQ have also now confirmed how teachers should generate final, overall gradings. Teachers are directed to base grades on a "holistic, objective judgement of the evidence of the students' performance on the subject content they have been taught." Teachers will compare the performance of students in the named assessments to national grade descriptors and grading exemplification provided by the examination boards in order to reach a final grade. JCQ go on to explain that: "These materials exemplify the established performance standard that is maintained each year by awarding organisations and is to be applied in grading judgements this summer. This will help to ensure that there is a common basis to all teacher assessed grades. It should be no easier or more difficult for a student to achieve a grade this year based on their performance than in previous years."

Parents' Evenings and discussions around Teacher Assessed Grades

We have two important Parents' Evenings over the next week:

- Year 11 Parents' Evening 22nd April
- Year 12 & 13 Parents' Evening 29th April

Whilst we understand that parents and students will be keen to discuss Teacher Assessed Grades with subject teachers, following both the instructions from Ofqual and JCQ, our teachers can discuss progress but will be unable to discuss final grades. Our staff will instead, focus on performance in recent assessments, supply specific targets to improve and they will be able to answer limited questions around the future assessments.

It is also important to remind parents and students that it may be deemed as exam malpractice for pressure to be applied to teachers around the grades that should be awarded in any subject. Both JCQ and Ofqual ask schools to keep records of any such cases and report them to the relevant examination board, which could lead to disqualification from that subject or multiple subjects.

Special Consideration

Special consideration requests will not apply in the usual way this summer because students will not be taking exams. However, if your child thinks that their performance in a specific assessment has been affected by illness or personal circumstances, either you or your child will need to complete this [form](#), as soon as possible.

Each request will then be reviewed by Associate Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Daly, to determine if it meets the criteria outlined in the full JCQ guidance. It is important that you raise any such instances before 28th May, so that we can take them into consideration when determining final overall grades.

End of term arrangements for Year 11 and Year 13

Finally, although students must be available for assessments until 18th June (in case there is a need to complete any missed assessments), they will not be required to attend school for regular timetabled lessons after Friday 28th May. Further details around the last day and any leavers activities will be published in due course.

For Year 11 students there will be a series of support programmes, including bridging and induction activities, which will be made available to students throughout the last half term. Further information about this provision will also be published in due course.

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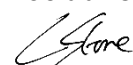
Support for Year 13 in relation to university applications, apprenticeships and employment will continue to be available from the Sixth Form Team throughout the academic year, including A Level results day. Students should contact the Sixth Form Team to arrange an appointment, where necessary.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about any part of the process, please don't hesitate to contact the relevant member of staff from the table below.

Enquiry Subject	Staff Member	Job Title	e-mail address
General Enquiries – Year 10	Mrs Grimshaw	Director of Learning	egrmishaw@rossettschool.co.uk
General Enquiries – Year 11	Mr Bulmer	Director of Learning	mbulmer@rossettschool.co.uk
General Enquiries – Sixth Form	Dr Reed	Head of Sixth Form	creed@rossettschool.co.uk
Specific Enquiries – GCSE, AS & A-Level	Mrs Jones	Exams Officer	jjones@rossettschool.co.uk
Specific Enquiries – VTQs (e.g. BTECs)	Mrs Daly	Associate Assistant Head	sdaly@rossettschool.co.uk
General Enquiries – Overall Process	Mr Stone	Deputy Headteacher	cstone@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in English	Mrs Brown	Director of Studies	gbrown@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in Maths	Mr Binns	Director of Studies	abinns@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in Science	Ms Thorp-Greenwood	Director of Studies	hthorpgreenwood@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in MFL (French & Spanish)	Mr Bruce-Halliwell	Director of Studies	cbrucehalliwell@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in Humanities (Geography, History, REP)	Mr Otway	Director of Studies	gotway@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in Arts (Art, Music, Drama)	Mrs McLurg	Director of Studies	amclurg@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in Technology (DT, Food, Textiles)	Mrs Phelps	Director of Studies	aphelps@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in Sport	Ms Fairbairn	Director of Studies	kfairbairn@rossettschool.co.uk
Assessment in Social & Computer Science (Psychology, Sociology, Health & Social Care, Business Studies, Economics, Computer Science, iMedia, ICT)	Ms Warburton	Director of Studies	lwarburton@rossettschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Mr C Stone
Deputy Headteacher

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