

24 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this update finds you and your families safe and well and that you have all had time to rest, enjoying some family time and beautiful sunshine over the Easter holidays and during this first week of our new term.

Before the holiday, we shared with you the <u>letter</u> that Ofqual have written to all students due to complete GCSE, AS and A-Level examinations this summer. I am writing with further details about these arrangements and also about changes to remote learning from Monday 27th April.

Examination Outcomes – Summer 2020:

With the cancellation of examinations this summer, Ofqual have asked schools to generate predicted grades for each student in each of their subjects. Ofqual have defined this 'predicted grade' as 'the grade that teachers believe students were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned'. Our staff will be entering these grades over the next two weeks before a thorough checking process is conducted and the grades are submitted to the exam boards. Following advice from Ofqual, teachers will use a range of evidence to generate these predicted grades, including:

- Classwork and homework
- Results in assignments and mock exams
- Any non-exam assessment or coursework
- General progress throughout the course

Before the grades are submitted to exam boards, subject leaders are also required to order students within each grade bracket, to indicate which students are most and least secure in each grade. This information will then be used by exam boards to standardise judgements – allowing fine tuning of the standard applied across schools and colleges. This also means that the final grade that students receive could be different from the one we submit to the exam board.

Schools have been instructed in the strongest possible terms not to discuss the grades they will be submitting to exam boards with either parents or students. Therefore we would ask you not to contact any teacher or other member of the school staff about these grades. Any e-mail correspondence we receive about this matter will be ignored.

Ofqual would like to reassure students that the grades they receive this summer will look exactly the same as in previous years, and they will have equal status with universities, colleges and employers, to help them move forward in their lives as planned.

Ofqual have also produced this <u>video</u>, which also summarises the information above. The government have also recently confirmed that results days will go ahead on the original dates as planned:

- A-Level Thursday 13th August
- GCSE Thursday 20th August

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Rossett School is an Independent Academy Trust and Company Limited by Guarantee Company No 7664288 Registered in England and Wales They have also stated that any students who do not agree with any of the grades they have been assigned will be able to take examinations in a particular subject(s) at the first available opportunity (most likely during the Autumn Term). Further details about these examinations will follow, once they become available.

Remote Learning – Changes from 27th April

After the confirmation of the examination arrangements the advice to schools is that students in Year 11 are not required to continue with their studies for their GCSEs and instead students should begin preparing for the next stages of their education.

From Monday 27th April, therefore, students in Year 11 will no longer be set lesson by lesson activities aimed at their GCSE specifications. Instead, where students have provided us with the relevant information about their education plans for September and where we offer relevant Post 16 courses, students have been assigned to new Microsoft Office Teams.

Teachers will be setting weekly extended transition work in each of these teams starting on Monday morning. Students will be able to complete this work over the course of the week and hand it in to their teachers. Teachers will then be able to offer feedback on this work, where it is appropriate to do so.

These teams have already been set up. If a student has not been assigned to the correct team, or has changed their mind about their Post 16 studies and would like to be added or removed from a particular team, then they should e-mail <u>sixthformchoices@rossettschool.co.uk</u> by 8am on Monday morning. These changes will then be made, so that students can complete the work relevant to their future studies. If students have any technical difficulties in accessing these new teams, they should continue to e-mail <u>studentithelp@rossettschool.co.uk</u>.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mr C Stone Deputy Headteacher

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