

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 [letter](#) 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 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 [video](#), 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 13<sup>th</sup> August
- GCSE – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August

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

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(most likely during the Autumn Term). Further details about these examinations will follow, once they become available.

### **Remote Learning – Changes from 27<sup>th</sup> April**

After the confirmation of the examination arrangements the advice to schools is that students in Year 13 are not required to continue with their studies for their A-Levels and instead students should begin preparing for the next stages of their lives.

From Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April, therefore, students in Year 13 will no longer be set lesson by lesson activities aimed at their A-Level specifications. Instead, we would encourage those students intending to start university in September to begin preparing for their courses. To do this our staff have prepared some generic reading lists, which can be found in this One Drive Folder:

[https://rossettschool-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/personal/sn\\_rossettschool\\_co\\_uk/Documents/Year%2013%20Reading%20Lists?csf=1&web=1&e=ePyPsm](https://rossettschool-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/personal/sn_rossettschool_co_uk/Documents/Year%2013%20Reading%20Lists?csf=1&web=1&e=ePyPsm)

Additionally, we would direct students to free online courses being run by various institutions around the world. They include:

- [www.mooc.org](http://www.mooc.org) (can also be accessed through your unifrog accounts – see attached instructions for details of how to do this).
- <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>
- <https://oyc.yale.edu>
- <https://www.myheplus.com>
- <https://online-learning.harvard.edu>

### **Year 13 Destinations**

If your child is still unsure about their future destination, they can access careers advice and information via [unifrog](#). (Their username is their email address and they can select forgotten password if they can't remember the password).

Here are some suggestions to help them with research into future destinations:

- **Unifrog** – careers library, complete an interests profile or create a CV.
- **Apprenticeships** – if you are interested in apprenticeships, information is available in the apprenticeships section of unifrog or [all about apprenticeships](#).
- **Ukuniversitiesearch** are hosting free live Webinar Wednesdays every week at 12pm from 29 April until 27 May. Their webinars can also be watched live on [YouTube](#) for anyone unable to sign into Zoom on the day. Our past webinars are available to view on their YouTube at any time too. The topics for each session are; **Applying for University, Student Finance, Apprenticeships** and **Life at University** [See full details here](#).

If your child would like to put in a late university application or requires further careers advice, they can contact Mr. Foley [bfoley@rossettschool.co.uk](mailto:bfoley@rossettschool.co.uk) who can offer advice or put them in touch with our independent careers advisor.

### **Student Finance**

Please note that if your child is intending to go to university in September they should apply for student finance by registering with them and completing an application if they have not done so already.

If you have any questions about any of the detail contained in this letter, please don't hesitate to get in contact with one of the Sixth Form team, in the first instance.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mr C Stone  
Deputy Headteacher

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