

Dear All,

Alternative Arrangements for your Year 11 & Year 13 Examinations this Summer

I am writing to outline the arrangements that the government have made in response to the decision to cancel the exams that you were expecting to sit this summer and to explain how Oasis Community Learning will support you at this time.

On 25th February, the Department for Education published its [guidance on awarding qualifications this summer](#). Whilst they have set out some principles of the approach, they have also asked exam boards to develop this further by the end of March including how grading will work. We will write to you as soon as possible after this date to finalise the arrangements.

We recognise that you may be curious or even concerned about how the arrangements will work but ask that you are patient with your teachers while we develop the best approach to ensure you receive the grades you are capable of. In the meantime, be aware that your continued hard work can still count towards your grades so attending school and working at your best are crucial.

The National Approach

'Teacher Assessed Grades' will replace exams and other formal assessments this summer. These are to be based on examples of your work and performance throughout your course. Your grades are therefore to be based on what you know, understand and can do rather than any prediction of what you might have achieved had the pandemic not happened. This approach is very different to last summer.

The government have recognised that this approach is needed due to the significant disruption throughout last academic year and this one. This has also been very different in different places, different schools and even for different classes and students due to the impacts of the pandemic. The approach this year allows teachers to assess you just on the topics they have been able to teach you so there is no need to worry unduly about your 'lost learning'. We do need you to work hard to understand all of the topics you have been taught and to engage fully in your learning now that schools have reopened.

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The government have given teachers a list of evidence of your work which can be used towards your grade which includes classwork, homework, assessments and mock exams. It has not yet been announced how much of each of the evidence will be needed so we will have to wait to finalise our plans. If your course includes any coursework or controlled assessment, you are expected to have completed this so please do keep up your good work with this.

For those of you who usually have special access arrangements for your exams or a disability, we will make sure a fair approach is taken to your assessment.

The government have set us the deadline of 18th June to submit your final grades to the exam boards. They require significant checking and quality assurance to have taken place before then so the deadline we set for your final work is likely to be in May.

Year 13 results will be released to students on **10th August** and Year 11 on **12th August**. These dates are earlier than originally planned so please make a note of them carefully. We do know that there will be an appeals process after these dates should you feel your grade is not fair and your academy will support you fully with this process.

Whilst the next few months so have some uncertainty, we look forward to supporting you fully through this time and to achieving qualifications that you are truly proud of.

Should you have any questions or queries that you would like answered now please do get in touch with your academy who will give you the best and most up to date information that we have.

Yours sincerely,

John Murphy

Chief Executive Officer – Oasis Community Learning

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