

# Tapton SCHOOL

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Dear students, parents and carers,

We are writing to give you a further update regarding the awarding of final grades for this summer following the cancellation of all GCSE, AS and A Level exams. As you can imagine the Department for Education, Ofqual and examination boards are working with schools on the processes for awarding grades, subsequent results days and the future examination series.

Your teachers and Subject Leaders are now working together to ensure that the final grades they submit are the fairest they can be. In order to ensure awarding is fair, examination entries and tier of entry cannot be altered. Your final grades will be based on your likely performance in the exams had they gone ahead. Final grades will be based on your teacher's professional judgement, balancing the different sources of evidence, including classwork, homework and assessments. Where a student has an access arrangement to support them, teachers will base their final calculation with the assumption that these adjustments would have been in place for the exams.

It is important at this stage of the process to make you aware of some of the regulations the Department of Education, Ofqual and exam boards have put in place to ensure the integrity of the process. Schools are now the awarding bodies of examinations and must work within a rigorous and confidential framework; teachers are unable to share their processes or the submitted grades. We continue to be acutely aware of the anxiety that this situation has caused for you all and want to thank you for directing questions to the [exams@taptonschool.co.uk](mailto:exams@taptonschool.co.uk) email rather than contacting individual teachers. However, we must advise you of the guidance given to schools by Ofqual which stresses that 'students, parents and carers should not seek to influence the judgements made; attempts to do so may be investigated by an exam board and found to constitute malpractice, which may result in sanctions.'

Ofqual has specifically stated that the final 'grades will have the same status as grades issued in any other year and will be used for progression as usual. However, subject to any public health safeguards, there will be an additional exam series in the autumn which students who had entered for the exams scheduled to have been taken this summer will be able to enter.' The details of the autumn series and appeal process are yet to be finalised, however, we will contact you with details as soon as we have them. In addition it is important to note that there will not be any applications for special consideration for this examination series. However, school will contact post-16 or post-18 destination providers on behalf of students with exceptional circumstances.

A Level and GCSE examination results dates have now been released. A Level results day will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August and GCSE results day will take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August. As soon as we have further details about the shape and structure of these results days we will contact you.

We will continue to communicate any updates through our normal channels including the school website and MCAS. Thank you for your continued support and understanding. We hope you and your family remain safe and well during these times.

Yours sincerely

Kat Rhodes

Harkiran Grewal

Andrew Wright



Headteacher

Deputy Headteacher

Assistant Headteacher



Valuing everyone, Caring for each other, Achieving excellence