



Wadebridge School

Limited Company Registered UK (Charitable status)
Company No: 07999988

Headteacher: Miss T. Yardley B.A. Hons.
Gonvena Hill, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 6BU



Telephone Number: 01208 812881

E-Mail: enquiries@wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk

Website: www.wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk

11th March 2021

Dear Year 11 and Parents

Firstly, welcome back! It is a pleasure to see you back in school.

We can only reiterate how impressed we were with your engagement with remote learning. Your evidenced both resilience and a commitment to your own learning, whilst developing many of the important 'soft skills' that will be key in the next stage of your education.

You have shown a great deal of patience whilst we awaited the government's decision on what would replace the external exams and now that we have clearer picture, we can share that with you.

How will grades be awarded this summer?

Teachers will assess students against a national standard set by the exam boards. Teachers will be given clear guidance to support them and will make an evidence-based judgement. **It is NOT the teacher's own opinion.**

Teachers will draw on a range of assessment evidence from across a student's study of the course. Different subject areas may use different sources of evidence, there is no requirement for any one type of assessment to be used.

Teachers will be able to discuss which evidence they are using to inform their judgement but **teachers are not allowed to disclose final grades.** It is important to note that teachers are only able to submit grades for students which they have evidence for. If teachers submit grades without evidence they are committing exam malpractice.

If students or parents are found to be putting teachers or leaders under pressure to increase grades, then this matter will be referred to the exam boards and an investigation into malpractice may ensue. This may result in the student's certificate being removed entirely if malpractice is deemed to have taken place.

Teachers are encouraged to continue assessing students in the coming weeks but only on content that they have already been taught.

It is planned that Year 11 students will complete diagnostic assessments in the week beginning 19th April 2021 and will have a further opportunity to ensure that their grades reflect their ability in a two-week assessment window beginning the 17th May 2021.

These diagnostic assessments will not only allow teachers to assess 'what students know', the process also provides students, should the grades be favourable, with an opportunity to influence their overall grade.

All grades need to be submitted by **Friday 18 June**. At that point, grades will be quality assured by the exam boards. If the exam boards are confident in the submitted results, **the exam boards will award students their final grades**. Unlike last year, students' grades will not be changed by a formula.

GCSE Results Day will be Thursday 12th August 2021.

As in any other year students will have the right to appeal their grade. If they believe their grade is wrong, the first thing that they should do is to ask their centre to check for errors. If no errors are identified, and a student still believes their grade is wrong, their centre can then submit an appeal to the exam board on their behalf.

The exam board can confirm whether the grade is reasonable based on the evidence. If not, they will determine the alternative grade. Students should be aware that grades can go up or down as the result of an appeal.

What should I do next?

The best thing students can do is to continue to attend classes, learn, act on feedback from their teachers, revise, and read around their subject.

Grades are not yet decided and there is ample time to ensure grades reflect your ability!

Should you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'POY', with a large loop at the end.

Mrs Onderdonck-Young

Key Stage 4 Leader