

14th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Centre Assessed Grades Information – Year 11 Students

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well. Further to the letter dated 19th April 2021, I write again with an update on Centre Assessed Grades for Year 11 students this summer. Our Centre Policy outlines the process that we will follow to ensure that teacher assessed grades are determined fairly, consistently, objectively, free from bias and effectively across subjects in our school. This policy has been submitted to the JCQ and Exam Boards and has been subject to external scrutiny. The policy is on our website <https://www.airedaleacademy.com/summer-2021-cags/> and I would urge you to read it and direct any questions that you might have to centreassessedgrades@airedaleacademy.com.

During assemblies and in their subject lessons, all students have been made aware of exactly how their grades will be reached. In each of their subjects, teachers have made it very clear which pieces of work will be used and when they will be completed, and teachers have also made students aware of any evidence completed prior to 26th March that will be used as well. In addition to this, we have also published these details by individual subject, on our website. I would encourage you to discuss these documents found at <https://www.airedaleacademy.com/summer-2021-cags/> with your son / daughter so that you are fully aware of how we will determine grades and what evidence we will use.

As part of the process for determining grades this year, all student evidence used to determine teacher assessed grades will be kept and made available for the purposes of external quality assurance and appeals. The evidence that we use will include:

- Student work produced in response to assessment materials provided by Exam Boards, including groups of questions, past papers or similar materials such as practice or sample papers.
- Non-exam assessment work (often referred to as coursework), even if this has not been fully completed.
- Student work produced in school devised tasks that reflect the course, that follow the same format as Exam Board materials, and have been marked in a way that reflect official mark schemes.
- Substantial class or homework (including work that took place during remote learning).
- Internal tests taken by students.
- Mock exams taken over the course of study.
- Records of a student's capability and performance over the course of study in performance-based subjects such as music, drama and PE.

Where students are entitled to agreed access arrangements or reasonable adjustments (for example a reader or scribe) we will make every effort to ensure that these arrangements are in place when assessments are being taken. Where an assessment has taken place without an agreed reasonable adjustment or access arrangement, we will remove that assessment from the basket of evidence and alternative evidence will be used, or the teacher will take this into account when giving a mark for the piece of work. Where Covid-19 related illness or other Covid-19 related personal circumstances might have affected performance in assessments used in determining a student's standard of performance, we will take account of this when making judgements. We will record, as part of our internal records, how we have

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incorporated any necessary variations to take account of the impact of illness or personal circumstances on the performance of individual students in assessments.

In line with JCQ guidance, teachers are not allowed to share final grades with students during this process. All staff involved have been made aware of the need to maintain the confidentiality of teacher assessed grades. All teaching staff have been briefed on the requirement to share details of the range of evidence on which students' grades will be based, while ensuring that details of the final grades remain confidential.

Mitigating Circumstances

I know that some parents and carers may have concerns about the time that your son / daughter has missed and been away from school. Whereas this isn't time lost due to lockdowns, this may be time lost due to a positive Covid-19 diagnosis or because they were forced to self-isolate. Whilst we are confident that our Faculty Teams are aware of this and how it may have impacted individual students, and will take it into account when determining which pieces of evidence to use, if you feel that your child may be disadvantaged, please email us on centreassessedgrades@airedaleacademy.com to make us aware of your specific concerns. We will then be able to contact you, should we need to do so to discuss your concerns. Students may email us using this account as well.

Result's Day Guidance

Result's Day this year will be Thursday 12th August 2021. I will write to you in due course with further details.

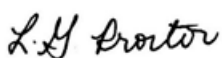
End of Year Celebration

We have had a number of enquiries from parents, carers and students about the Prom for Y11 students this summer. As we are still awaiting government guidance on both the 17th May and the 21st June, regrettably we have to confirm that this year the prom will not go ahead in its traditional form. We are aware of the financial burden that the costs of the prom place on parents and carers during more normal times, and we are not satisfied that there will be enough time from receiving the final guidance from the government to the date of the prom for it to go ahead as planned; we also have concern about the financial pressures that this would put on families with little notice at an already very difficult time. We will hold a celebration for students and, once the guidance has been published and we know what type of event we can safely hold, we will update you all on our plans. We are very proud of the resilience that our Y11 students have shown and we believe that they deserve to have a celebration following on from the difficult time that they have been through over the past 2 academic years.

Year 11 – Last day

Year 11 will finish on Friday 11th June. Full attendance is required until this date; students are still needed to complete final CAG assessments until this date, therefore it is vital that they attend. I thank-you in advance for your support in ensuring your son/ daughter is in school every day.

Yours faithfully,



L. Proctor
Principal