



# A Guide to Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs)

March 2021

The purpose of this booklet is to inform you as parents the guidance the school has been given and how as a school we wish to achieve the best possible grades for young people within the framework set out by OFQUAL. It is important that students read the subject profiles included within this document to ensure that they fully understand what evidence will be used in the formation of teacher assessed grades and aware of the opportunities available to them over the last half term.

We will be offering you an opportunity to speak to your son/daughter's subject teachers with a parents evening on **Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April**. This will allow you to raise any queries with your subject teacher about the evidence being used and how to use the last half term to support any judgements. It will however, be very different to normal as subject teachers will not be allowed to discuss any grades, as per OFQUAL guidance.

This document contains a reminder about some of the frequently asked questions, but please feel free to contact the school if you require any further clarification.

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## **What instructions has the school received?**

Ofqual have announced the following headlines:

- Teachers must assess their students' performance, only on what content has been delivered.

*In all subjects, evidence of pupil performance will only be assessed on areas of the course covered therefore pupils will not be assessed on areas of the course that are unfamiliar to them.*

- Teachers can use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform their judgement.

*To support pupils, evidence of their performance can be used from throughout the GCSE course, therefore giving pupils a wider range of evidence to draw upon.*

- Teachers should determine the grades as late in the academic year as is practicable, and not confined to a defined window, to enable teaching to continue for as long as possible.

*Teachers have not decided the TAG grades already. They are planning further opportunities over the next half term for students to demonstrate any further evidence that may be used in any final judgement. This also means that students receive face-to-face teaching of key content, which supports any transition to their next stage of education.*

- Schools and colleges should use a broad range of evidence across the taught content to determine the grades before submitting the grades to the exam boards.

*In all subjects, teachers have a robust evidence base of pupil progress across 3 years of GCSE study. For example, teacher mark books contain end of topic assessments and mock examination grades. However, in order to be fair to pupils this means that not one single assessment point will be used on its own.*

*At the time of writing this, teachers are carefully planning any further in class assessments to provide further opportunities for students to demonstrate their abilities. Again however, this new information will be part of the bigger picture when allocating TAGs.*

- Students should continue to work on their non-exam assessment (NEA).

*For subjects where NEA makes a significant contribution to the pupil's final grade the NEA will contribute to their final grade. The NEA will be marked by teachers using the exam board mark scheme and will contribute to the overall grade, whether or not it has been completed.*

- In GCSE art and design, the student's grade must be based on the portfolio only, whether or not it has been completed.

*Within Art & Design students will collate their work from over their GCSE's to produce a portfolio of work. This will be marked by teachers using the exam board criteria, whether or not it has been fully completed, therefore giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their skills from a wide range of evidence.*

- **Overall, it will be no easier or harder for a student to achieve a particular grade this year compared to previous years.**

# How GCSEs, AS and A levels will be awarded in summer 2021



Ofqual/21/6751/2

Working out your grade	Evidence	Results and appeals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graded by teacher judgement</li> <li>Not graded by an algorithm</li> <li>School and college assessments can continue</li> <li>You'll only be assessed on what you've been taught</li> <li>Your teacher will tell you what evidence is used to grade you</li> <li>Private candidates to work with a school, college or exam centre to provide evidence for them to be graded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mocks, tests and work already done can be used as evidence</li> <li>Non-exam assessment should continue</li> <li>Non-exam assessments can be used as evidence even if incomplete</li> <li>Art &amp; design grade based only on your portfolio</li> <li>Teachers can use question banks provided by exam boards if they want to</li> <li>Results will be based on completed and future work, so keep doing your best</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Results days</b> AS and A level 10 August GCSE 12 August</li> <li>If you're unhappy with your grade, you can appeal it. First step is to submit an appeal to your school or college.</li> <li>You can find out more details from your school, college or exam board, or by visiting the Ofqual website</li> <li><a href="http://www.gov.uk/ofqual">www.gov.uk/ofqual</a></li> </ul>

## How will I know when a student has an assessment?

Before any assessment pupils will be notified through Satchel One of any upcoming dates at least a week before any assessment point. The work on Satchel One will be clearly identified as a class test and include any supporting resources to support students.



Class test

satchel:one

## What evidence will each subject use to inform the teacher assessed grade and how will pupils be supported?

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>ART</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
As required by OFQUAL, Art students are required to submit a portfolio of their work based on the work they have completed across the GCSE.	
The Monochrome Project from Year 10 and the more recent Inspired by Art portfolio will be used as evidence across the whole course.	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
Students will continue to undertake their portfolio of work based on the recent project, and this has been planned out to include time for a final finished piece in class.	
A refinement, catch up and challenge program has been set up to allow pupils to develop their portfolios and catch up on any work.	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
Students should fully engage in all Art home learning and lessons and make the most out of any teacher feedback.	
Support through visuals, help sheets, PowerPoints will be provided in class and through Satchel One.	

Students have been given assessment deadlines to support them through the development of work and the completion of a final piece. The whole of the second unit will be assessed holistically at the end of May.

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>BUSINESS STUDIES</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>Business Studies has a wide variety of evidence regarding pupil performance from across the GCSE course. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of unit examinations on all topics</li> <li>• Mock exams.</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
The department will use two mini in-class assessments (45 mins) based on exam board resources.	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Before any in-class assessment we will run lesson based and homework revision style activities. Students will be provided with specific support materials for each assessment, and these will be shared through Satchel One.</p> <p>Students should make full use of the revision style videos on GCSE Pod.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>Computer Science has a wide variety of evidence regarding pupil performance from across the GCSE course. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of unit tests</li> <li>• Mock exams</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
The department will use two mini in-class assessments (45 mins) based on exam board resources.	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>In preparation for any in-class mini assessments students will receive ongoing revision activities in class and shared through Satchel One.</p> <p>Students should make full use of the revision style videos on GCSE Pod.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>CREATIVE iMEDIA – OCR Cambridge National</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p><i>Please note this is subject to change as the exam board have not fully confirmed the final arrangements.</i></p> <p>Coursework as per the course requirements will be used to support any teacher assessed grade. Mock exams and ongoing assessments.</p> <p>An external exam was sat in January of this year – there will be an opportunity for those who did not sit this to be re-entered.</p>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>The exam board currently require one complete coursework – students will continue to work on this. Those who need to be re-entered for the exam will complete a mini assessment.</p> <p>The overall TAG will reflect progress based on exam and coursework.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Students will continue to be supported to complete coursework to the best possible standard.</p> <p>Any supporting materials for the mini in-class assessments will be shared through Satchel One in advance to support students.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>DESIGN &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>For Design Technology the Non- Examined Assessment (NEA) is still required by OFQUAL as part of the evidence towards a TAG. (Sections A,B,C and some of D&amp;F are completed).</p> <p>Students have also undertaken the Year 11 mock exam to provide evidence of the theory aspect of the course.</p> <p>This is further supplemented by a range of mini theory tests and exam questions within the normal lessons.</p>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>The NEA assessment will continue (50% of the final grade).</p> <p>There will be opportunities to revisit the theory element (50%) based on exam board materials.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Students continue to be supported through the NEA and have extensive support materials on the school's IT system.</p> <p>The department also has a website that supports pupils through the NEA process.</p> <p>These links have been shared through Satchel One.</p> <p>Students have also been issued revision guides and workbooks to supplement the theory work.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>D&amp;T - FOOD TECHNOLOGY</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>In Food the Non- Examined Assessment (NEA) is still required by OFQUAL as part of the evidence towards a TAG.</p> <p>Students have also undertaken the year 11 mock exam to provide evidence of the theory aspect of the course.</p> <p>This is further supplemented by a range of mini theory tests and exam questions within the normal lessons.</p>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>The NEA assessment will continue (50% of the final grade).</p> <p>There will be opportunities to revisit the theory element (50%) based on exam board materials.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Students continue to be supported through the NEA and have extensive support materials on the school's IT system.</p> <p>Support materials are also shared through Satchel One.</p> <p>Students have also been issued revision guides and workbooks to supplement the theory work.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>DRAMA</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>The NEA (coursework), devised practical exam, mock exam and exam theory practice questions will all be used to support any teacher assessed grade.</p>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>Students NEA (devised performance and coursework elements) will be used based on response to teacher feedback.</p>	

Students will complete a shortened scripted practical assessment based on exam criteria. The teaching for this has taken place from w/c March 8th and students will perform w/c 19th April. They have all been given a script to learn.

To further support this, mini in-class assessments will be used to support the balance of theory (40%) and practical (60%).

**What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?**

Students should continue to work through their coursework to the best of their ability and make the most of teacher feedback and input.

To support the assessment of theory students should engage with the resources supplied through Satchel One and in class.

**Subject:** ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?**

Evidence for English Language will come from several assessment points across Year 10 & 11.

Paper 1 – Examined through in-class assessments and mock exam papers.

Paper 2 – Individual in-class assessments.

**How will students be assessed going forward?**

Students will be given a further opportunity to evidence their performance through mini in-class assessments divided over a number of lessons.

These mini assessments will be based on exam board materials.

**What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?**

Students should fully engage in all English lessons and make the most out of the lessons leading up to any mini in-class assessments.

Before any in-class assessment we will run lesson based and homework revision style activities.

Students will be directed to specific support materials for each assessment, and these will be shared through Satchel One.

**Subject:** ENGLISH LITERATURE

**What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?**

Evidence for English Literature will come from several assessment points across Year 10 & 11.

Paper 1 – Examined through in class assessments and mock exam papers.

**How will students be assessed going forward?**

Students will revise their modern text and undertake a poetry comparison.

These will be assessed through mini in-class assessments.

**What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?**

Students should fully engage in all English lessons and make the most out of the lessons leading up to any mini in-class assessments.

Before any in-class assessment we will run lesson based and homework revision style activities.

Students should also make use of GCSE Pod.



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>FRENCH</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>In French students have completed a range of assessments including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of unit tests</li> <li>• A mock exam for listening, reading and writing.</li> <li>• In class assessments based on formative paragraphs.</li> </ul> <p>All will be used in the creation of a teacher assessed grade.</p>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>Students will undertake a number of mini assessments based on exam board materials based on themes 3 and 1 with some elements of theme 2. (Reading, Writing and Listening).</p> <p>For the Speaking endorsement students will complete a 1:1 assessment based on themes 1 and 3.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Before any in-class assessment students will take part in lesson based and homework revision style activities.</p> <p>Any in-class assessment will be notified through Satchel One and students may be directed to resources to support this.</p> <p>Students should make full use of the revision style videos on GCSE Pod.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>The TAG will be informed by a wealth of robust evidence from over the GCSE course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past end of unit exam questions across all topics in the specification across KS4.</li> <li>• Mock exams and any further in class assessments based on exam board materials.</li> <li>• The assessments all consider the assessment objectives as set out by the exam board so for example will provide evidence of knowledge, application and geographical skills.</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>The department will offer 3 new in-class assessments (45 minutes each) based on a range of topics covered across the course.</p> <p>The mini in-class assessments will be based on a range of exam questions from the new materials issued by the exam boards and cover a variety of question types and skills.</p> <p>This information will be used alongside all the student's assessments to help support any final judgements. They are only one part of the bigger picture.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Before any in-class assessment we will deliver lesson based and homework revision style activities. Students will be provided with specific support materials for each assessment, and these will be shared through Satchel One.</p> <p>Students should make full use of the revision style videos on GCSE Pod to refresh their understanding.</p> <p>Ultimately if a student is unsure about any topic or skill they should speak to their Geography teacher who will be more than willing to assist them.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>HEALTH &amp; SOCIAL CARE (BTEC)</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>Pupils have completed the components as per the BTEC requirements across Years 10 &amp; 11.</p> <p>All coursework is marked to the BTEC requirements (60%).</p> <p>Students have also completed mock exam papers on component 3.</p>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>Pupils will continue to complete the coursework units as required by BTEC.</p> <p>Pupils will be working on applying care values to different scenarios.</p> <p><i>(Please note that this may be subject to change as BTEC confirm final arrangements)</i></p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Continue to make full use of teacher feedback and advice throughout the remaining lessons to ensure coursework is completed to the best possible standard.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>History has a wide variety of evidence regarding pupil performance from across the GCSE course. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of unit examinations on all units.</li> <li>• Mock exams for all three papers.</li> <li>• Ongoing essay questions marked to exam board criteria. These cover the full range of question types and all units.</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>Before Easter students will continue to be taught about Weimar and Nazi Germany and as part of this there is a series of short assessments based on paper 3 question types. These will be used to further support teacher grades.</p> <p>During the Summer term the department will use mini assessments based on exam board resources for both Medicine Through Time and Weimar and Nazi Germany.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Students will continue to receive revision and support materials.</p> <p>On the school website there are the main course revision, activity and support materials for all units. Students should make use of GCSE Pod to help refresh their understanding.</p> <p>If a student is unsure about any topic or skill they should speak to their History teacher who will be more than willing to assist them.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>MATHS</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>Regular assessment and frequent testing has given Maths a wide range of evidence to draw upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessments made up of past exam questions over years 9, 10 and 11.</li> <li>• Year 10 exams</li> <li>• Year 11 mock exams which were a full set of 3 GCSE exam papers.</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>There will be 6 (45 minute) assessments.</p>	

These will be based on a full set of exam papers so that they cover the full breadth of content and reflect the correct balance of the 3 assessment objectives.

The papers will be grouped by topics to allow students to demonstrate a wide range of mathematical skills and understanding.

**What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?**

Students will be notified of the topics on each in-class assessment in advance.

Lessons will act as revision opportunities to support students.

Students should make full use of Maths Watch and other supporting resources to practice as this is the best form of revision for Maths.

**Subject:** MUSIC

**What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?**

Music has a wide range of assessments from the BTEC course. Many of these have also been verified by the exam board. Evidence includes:

- Unit 1 – External exam sat in January of this year.
- Unit 4 – Coursework
- Unit 5 - Coursework

**How will students be assessed going forward?**

The department hopes to further supplement the evidence by using:

- Unit 7 before Easter
- Unit 2 after Easter.

**What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?**

Students should continue to work through their coursework to the best of their ability and make the most of teacher feedback and input.

**Subject:** PE - GCSE

**What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?**

Assessment for PE is based on several elements and is well supported:

- 60% theory – supported prior exam questions and mock exam papers.
- 10% Written NEA/Coursework
- 30% Practical NEA based on highest scoring sports from the student's evidence base.

**How will students be assessed going forward?**

To support the practical element, some students are capturing further evidence in the form of video evidence.

Some students will also get the opportunity to gather further practical marks through teacher live marks on trampolining.

To support the theory element pupils will be given exam-based materials to provide further evidence.

**What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?**

Students are well supported within PE and the team will share revision resources through Satchel One in the lead up to any mini assessment.

Students should also make use of e-revision and the revision guides to refresh any of their understanding.

The department will support the practical element through normal lessons and planning to allow students to demonstrate and improve their skills.

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>PE - Cambridge National Qualification</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
A range of assessments have been completed. Unit RO51 was an externally set and assessed exam, which pupils have already completed. Units RO52 and RO56 are in the final stages of completion and are subject to external moderation.	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
The department will continue to offer units of the course which will be externally verified by OCR.	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
Students are well supported within PE and the team will share resources through Satchel One in the lead up to any mini assessment.	
Students should continue to make full use of the feedback and support they receive from their teachers.	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>PHILOSOPHY &amp; RELIGION</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
Any Teacher assessed grade will include a variety of evidence taken from the GCSE course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mock examinations</li> <li>• End of unit tests based on exam board materials.</li> <li>• Past paper question used during the delivery of the course.</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
To further provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their performance we will use some short answer questions based on exam materials within lessons.	
To support this, we will offer further mini assessments based upon the exam materials provided by the exam board.	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
Students will continue to be supported through targeted teaching of the content and should make the most out of this opportunity.	
Where any mini class assessment is to take place, we will notify students through Satchel One and provide supporting materials.	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SCIENCE - COMBINED</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
Assessment in science is based across the whole GCSE course with pupils undertaking assessment in Physics, Chemistry & Biology. These results are combined to form two science grades. Evidence includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of topic tests based on past paper questions.</li> <li>• Mock examinations.</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
Students will each undertake six smaller assessments based upon exam board materials.	
There will be two of these mini assessments in each of Biology, Chemistry & Physics.	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
Before any in-class assessment students will take part in lesson based and homework revision style activities.	
Any in-class assessment will be notified through Satchel one and students may be directed to resources to support this.	
Students should make full use of the revision style videos on GCSE Pod.	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SCIENCE - TRIPLE</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>Assessment in Triple Science is based across the whole GCSE course with pupils undertaking assessment in Physics, Chemistry &amp; Biology. These results are reported separately to inform 3 grades. Evidence includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of topic tests based on past paper questions.</li> <li>• Mock examinations</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>Students will each undertake six smaller assessments based upon exam board materials.</p> <p>There will be two of these mini assessments in each of Biology, Chemistry &amp; Physics.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Before any in-class assessment students will take part in lesson based and homework revision style activities.</p> <p>Any in-class assessment will be notified through Satchel One and students may be directed to resources to support this.</p> <p>Students should make full use of the revision style videos on GCSE Pod.</p>	

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SPANISH</b>
<b>What evidence will be used to support the Teacher Assessed Grade?</b>	
<p>In Spanish students have completed a range of assessments including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of unit tests</li> <li>• A mock exam for listening, reading and writing.</li> <li>• In class assessments based on formative paragraphs.</li> </ul>	
<b>How will students be assessed going forward?</b>	
<p>Students will undertake a number of mini assessments based on exam board materials based on themes 1, 2 and 3 (Reading, Writing and Listening).</p> <p>For the Speaking endorsement students will complete a 1:1 assessment based on Themes 1 and 2.</p>	
<b>What support is in place to allow students to access any new assessments?</b>	
<p>Before any in-class assessment, students will take part in lesson based and homework revision style activities.</p> <p>Any in-class assessment will be notified through Satchel One and students may be directed to resources to support this.</p> <p>Students should make full use of the revision style videos on GCSE Pod.</p>	

## FAQs

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A reminder of some of the frequently asked questions.

**How will TAGs be finalised?** TAGs are based on teachers' professional judgment, taking into account any work and assessments completed covering elements of the course which have been delivered. These can be finalised using a combination of historical assessments and any work produced during the weeks ahead which help validate grades given. We are in a strong position to do this; while students have been working from home, we continued to deliver our normal schemes of work and undertake regular assessments. For practical and vocational based subjects, advice is being provided on how components which have either been completed or are in the process of being completed can be used to finalise grades.

**What previous work will be used to support TAGs?** Any work completed can be used as evidence, alongside work completed in the period through to submission of grades shortly after May half term. This means that students will be able to further secure and validate grades which they had previously been given and demonstrate potential improvement. It is important that all work set by teachers is completed and that students demonstrate their very best in all they do; previous 'working at' grades may move up or down based on the outcomes of work set. A holistic approach will be taken to look at a range of work, therefore no individual assessment will be solely used to allocate a final grade.

**What guidance is being given to teachers on how to allocate TAGs?** All schools have received guidance on how to approach the allocation of TAGs; the general principles are as follows:

- Teachers must assess their students' performance, only on what content has been delivered to them by their teachers, to determine the grade each student should receive.
- Teachers can use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform their judgement.
- Teachers should determine the grades as late in the academic year as is practicable, and not confine it to a defined window, to enable teaching to continue for as long as possible.
- Schools should use a broad range of evidence across the taught content to determine the grades.
- Schools will have to confirm that students have been taught sufficient content to allow progression to the next stage of their education.
- Students should continue to work on their non-exam assessment (NEA), including for Project qualifications. NEAs will be marked by teachers and will contribute to the overall grade, whether or not it has been completed.
- In some practical subjects, the student's grade may be based on the portfolio only, requirements regarding what should be complete and included may change following exam board guidance.

**Will students sit any type of exam?** Students will complete some assessments in lessons, these will generally be shorter than examinations which would have taken place formally in the exam hall. These assessments will be set through Satchel One as a 'Class Test'. Students will be given at least 1 week's notice on when these will take place. Parents are encouraged to keep an eye on their parent app and discuss with their child any assessments which are scheduled, to support their child in preparing fully. ***Remember that these assessments only form part of the evidence to support allocated TAGs.***

**Do students who would normally receive support (special consideration) in examinations still receive this in any assessments?** We will ensure that all students are fully supported. Where students would normally receive additional support/access arrangements (eg. additional time, a reader, scribe or use of a laptop in examinations), opportunity will be provided for identified key pieces of work.

**How will I know what evidence is being used to support TAGs?** Teachers will be sharing with students what work will be considered when finalising TAGs; future in-class assessments will also be outlined to help students prepare. Parents will receive an overview of details for

all subjects prior to the Easter Holiday. Students will be able to use this to further recap on previous work completed and help them prepare work to be completed in class. We will be advising students to use revision materials and GCSE Pod to help them prepare for future work and recap on key topics.

**Will the exam board be providing formal assessment work?** Additional materials will be provided by the exam boards to help teachers award grades and will be available after Easter. The use of these materials is optional for all schools so we will wait to see the nature of what is provided to school. We are extremely confident with the planning being finalised for students at our school and would consider using additional materials should they be required. The Department of Education continue to send all schools updates and so we may have to make adjustments in line with all other schools should any further updates require us to do so.

**When are results published?** Results day for GCSE is Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> August. How results will be published will depend on the COVID restrictions in place at that time; we will update students of arrangements at the earliest opportunity. Our hope is that these can be collected from school where key staff will be on hand to provide further advice and guidance at the time.

**Will students be informed of their TAGs before the results day?** No, schools are not expected to share these grades. Where any formal assessment takes place students will be given appropriate feedback on how they have performed which may link to a level an individual piece of work is graded at; this does not however mean that the final grade would be in line with this as the work would only be one piece of evidence which may be considered. Final moderation of a range of work and sampling of evidence provided within school will result in final grades being allocated.

**What if a student believes their grade is wrong?** As in any other years, every student will have the right to appeal their grade. If they believe their grade is wrong, they can ask the school to check for errors. If the 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. An exam board will only revise a student's grade where the evidence cannot reasonably support that grade, rather than as a result of marginal differences of opinion. Students should be aware that grades can go up or down as the result of an appeal.