



16th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As we welcome our students back into school, we are looking ahead to how GCSEs will be determined for Year 11. On 25th February, Ofqual released the decisions made following the consultation period, you can find the full document by following this link: [Consultation on Awarding Grades 2021](#)

Grades will be determined by the school based on a range of evidence gathered across Key Stage 4 but there will be more weighting placed on more recent pieces of work. Our departments are exceptionally good at tracking how our students have performed in different pieces of work, so we already have a wealth of evidence to support grade entries. We do, however, feel it is important for students to have an opportunity to build on those grades and to do this, we are including a four-week “Time to Shine” period – please see the timeline below:

| | | | |
|------------|---|------------|----------------|
| 15/03/2021 | Full Return Teaching Time in all lessons Revision lists/ Preparation materials to be given to students. | | |
| 22/03/2021 | | | |
| 29/03/2021 | | | Easter Holiday |
| 05/04/2021 | EASTER Holiday | | |
| 12/04/2021 | Revision sessions - see Timetable of available sessions on the school website. | | |
| 19/04/2021 | Time to Shine Students to be informed what assessments will be used as evidence for their final grades. | | |
| 26/04/2021 | | | |
| 03/05/2021 | | | |
| 10/05/2021 | | | |
| 17/05/2021 | Gathering of all evidence to inform final grades. | | |
| 24/05/2021 | | | |
| 31/05/2021 | HALF TERM | | |
| 07/06/2021 | School Standardisation | | |
| 14/06/2021 | Head of Centre Sign off | SUBMISSION | Deadline |

Over the next few weeks, students will be given clear guidance on pieces of work they will be asked to complete during the “Time to Shine” period and how they can prepare for these. Each piece of work will be done within lessons and will be spread across this four-week window. As part of our process, we have included a thorough quality assurance process, to ensure that grades are fair, honest and reflect each student’s performance.

We have made the decision to replace our parents’ evening planned for 25th March with an information video for parents and pupils to ensure you have all the information you need about the GCSE process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email myself, Mr C Rogers (Head of Y11) or Mr J Taylor (Deputy Headteacher).

We do hope that you understand that we will not be able to share any grades with students or parents before GCSE results day.

We recognise that this is a challenging time for our students – they have demonstrated enormous resilience, flexibility, and dedication to their studies over the last twelve months. Staff at Shrewsbury Academy are totally committed to supporting each child through the weeks ahead.

Yours faithfully

R Hayes

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