



3rd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have now received some updated guidance in relation to how the GCSE and A-Level exams will be assessed this summer.

We have included website links in the guidance below for your attention:

Letter to Students from Ofqual - Summer 2020 Grading

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877930/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_heads_of_centres.pdf

Guidance for Teachers, Students, Parents & Carers

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf

In summary, our understanding is as follows.

Year 11, 12 & 13 Students

We have been advised that the grades from Prince Henry's for GCSE, AS and A Levels this summer will be determined as follows:

A holistic professional judgement from teachers, balancing the different sources of evidence. Teachers and Heads of Department will have a good understanding of their students' performance and how they compare to other students within the department/subject this year, as well as in previous years.

Heads of Department and teachers will consider each student's performance over the course of study and make a realistic judgement of the grade that each student would have been most likely to get if they had taken their exam(s) in a subject and completed any non-exam assessment this summer. This could include U (ungraded).

In coming to this holistic judgement, we have been asked to assume that it is no easier or harder for a student to achieve a particular grade this year, compared to previous years.

We will ensure the judgements are objective, and they should only take account of evidence about student performance.

This will include the following, where it is available:

Victoria Avenue, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 4QH

t: 01386 765588 • f: 01386 40760 • e: enquiries@princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk • www.princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk

The Prince Henry's High School Academy Trust trading as Prince Henry's High School, registered as a company in England and Wales at the above address. Reg No 07512962

Working in collaboration with Bredon Hill and St Egwin's Middle Schools

- Records of each student's performance over the course of study, including for example progress review data, classwork, bookwork, and/or participation in performances in subjects such as Music, Drama and PE
- Performance in any non-exam assessment (NEA), even if this has not been fully completed. Students will not be asked to complete their NEA work to form this assessment, and we do not have to submit marks for any completed NEA. We have been advised that students achieve a higher grade on their NEA than in their exams, so we will not base this judgment on NEA alone. We will balance it with our judgement about their likely performance in the written paper(s), where appropriate. In case students will decide that they want to enter in a subsequent exam series, they should retain any NEA work completed to date
- For re-sitting students, any information about previous grades achieved or NEA marks that would, under normal circumstances, have been carried forward
- For A level students who took AS in 2019, their AS results in that subject
- Performance in any class or homework assessments and mock exams taken over the course of study
- Tier of entry in tiered subjects - the Centre Assessment Grades we submit must reflect the tier of entry (9 to 3 for Higher tier; 5 to 1 for Foundation, as well as U)
- Previous results attained by former cohorts at Prince Henry's in each subject
- The performance of this year's students compared to those in previous years
- Any other relevant information

Year 10 Students - Citizenship Exam 2020

We have been advised that grades will not be issued this summer for students in Year 10 and below. However, the DfE is still consulting on that proposal and no final decision has been made. As soon as we are aware of their decision, we will inform you immediately. If students cannot take their exam this summer, we hope that there will be an opportunity for them to do so this Autumn, but again we have to wait for the DfE to let us know if this is acceptable.

Finally, we will repeat what was written in Dr Evans' letter dated 23rd March 2020. We will do everything we can to ensure your child has the grades they truly deserve, and we can promise you, that the grades will be real, and the academic integrity of Prince Henry's will be preserved. In the grades that we submit to QCA (The Qualifications & Curriculum Authority), there will not be a "bounce up", neither will there be a "fall". The historic profiles for both year groups will be consistent with our projections.

These are absolutely unprecedented times, and we have given you all the information that we are already aware of. Please could we ask parents not to contact individual members of staff or Heads of Year about your child's grades. There are robust internal tracking systems in school. This is out of our control and, as a parent ourselves we appreciate this is easier said than done, but our strongest advice is to try not to worry about the Mock exam outcomes, incomplete NEAs, incomplete coursework assignments or any practical assessments. Staff cannot give you any further information than what we know from the government. We repeat what we said earlier: the school will act with the utmost professionalism and integrity in relation to GCSE and A Level outcomes.

Finally, please could we ask you not to contact the school directly on this. We have no further information to give you at the current time than what you have been given here.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Lungley

Mrs A Lungley
Assistant Headteacher i/c Assessment



Dr A Evans
Headteacher

