



THE DEAN TRUST
Believe Achieve Succeed

Chief Executive: Mr Tarun Kapur CBE

Chairman: Mr Damian McGann

25th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope that this communication finds you safe and well.

As you know, we have been able to maintain a provision across our Dean Trust family of schools for those pupils who are either the children of key workers or potentially vulnerable.

Whilst this provision has only been needed for a small number of pupils, it has nevertheless been successful and appreciated by those families.

May I take this opportunity to thank those parents/carers who have managed to secure other arrangements for both term-time and what would ordinarily be the Easter break. This supports the national effort to further reduce physical distancing at this tentative time.

We are still receiving a large number of communications from concerned parents and carers of pupils in years 6, 11 and 13 who are seeking more definitive answers to how the government will determine the grades that their children will be awarded. They are also asking whether work that is being done remotely will, or can, contribute to those grades.

The government has said...

The calculated grade process will take into account a range of evidence including, for example, non-exam assessment and mock results, and the approach will be standardised between schools and colleges. Ofqual is working urgently with the exam boards to set out proposals for how this process will work and will be talking to teachers' representatives before finalising an approach, to ensure that the approach taken is as fair as possible.

More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

Our understanding is that the work that pupils are doing now will not contribute to those grade calculations.

Whilst it is understandably a worrying time for pupils and parents/carers, you should not try to engage in communications with teachers or leaders in an attempt to influence this process of grade determination.

The government have said that if a pupil is unhappy with the grade that they have been awarded then...

We will work closely with Ofqual and awarding organisations to ensure candidates are awarded a fair grade that recognises the work they have put in. If a student does not believe the correct process has been followed in their case they will be able to appeal on that basis. In addition, if they do not feel their calculated grade reflects their performance, they will have the opportunity to sit an exam, as soon as is reasonably possible after schools and colleges open again. Students will also have the option to sit their exams in summer 2021.

Thank you for your ongoing support and may we wish you safety and good health at this time.

Tarun Kapur CBE
Chief Executive

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