

Our ref:8746501

27 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Ofqual Consultation**

I wanted to send this short communication to provide you with the details of the national consultation that will help determine how grades should be decided and awarded for all of our students who are expecting certification this summer. The consultation has been drafted by Ofqual, the government department that regulates qualifications and exams in England. Along with the Department for Education, Ofqual are keen to hear the views of students, their parents and carers on the proposals they have drafted.

The document is reasonably lengthy, but each section is split into a number of proposals and alongside these are a series of questions that ask for your views on each proposal. I hope that in reading and potentially responding to the consultation, you may feel that in these uncertain times, you have some influence over the decisions that will be made about the processes that will determine grades this summer. I have included hyperlinks to the consultation below. You will see there are two separate links, one for GCSE and A Level courses and one for applied general qualifications that include BTECs, Cambridge courses and Financial Studies. The consultation closes **Friday 29 January 2021**.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our students for the levels of attendance and engagement being shown in their live lessons. I know there are many challenges in preparing for and learning in these lessons, but our teachers continue to be inspired each day by the efforts students are making, the responses they are giving and the questions they are asking. Please remember that if there are any difficulties accessing these lessons because of issues with equipment or getting on to the internet, you can get in touch with our House Offices or the school reception and we will do what we can to help.

If you are a student reading this, we ask that you please continue to work hard. No matter how grades are decided this summer, hard work is the most reliable way of positively influencing the grades that you will receive. By continuing to engage with your studies you are also doing as much as you can to develop the knowledge and skills that will help to prepare you for the next stages of your education or training, whatever your plans for next year are. Ultimately, in making

this commitment you are taking all the ownership you can of the circumstances that we find ourselves in. Our teaching team will continue to do everything we can to support you with this.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Gray', with a horizontal line underneath.

Barry Gray  
**Deputy Headteacher**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-alternative-arrangements-for-the-award-of-vtqs-and-other-general-qualifications-in-2021>

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