

Dear Parent/Carers,

### **GCSE grades – Information For This Year**

I am writing to let you know that the GCSE 'Teacher Assessed Grades' (TAG) that we have awarded students were submitted by the school on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June. These results will now be quality assured by the individual exam boards before we release them on 12 August.

I thought that at this point in time, it would be useful to provide you with further information regarding the whole process that the school undertook and how appeals can be made.

### **Subject Portfolios**

All students completed a portfolio of evidence. The evidence in their portfolio's ranges from mock exams that students took in November 2020 to assessments that were undertaken throughout lockdown, along with in class exams that took place when they returned in March.

For full information about the content on which each subject has based their evidence portfolios on please see [here](#). Your child will be aware of all the assessments that they undertook throughout this period of time.

### **Quality Assurance and Moderation**

All evidence used in portfolios has been moderated and quality assured within our different departments.

In most recent assessments students only recorded their candidate number on the front of scripts in order to remove any unconscious bias. Sample scripts were then moderated via blind and double marking so that teachers were in agreement on the marking and grading of scripts. Teachers worked in collaboration with other members of their departments in order to award students a final GCSE grade to ensure that there was consistency and fairness.

Heads of Department then met with myself and the Deputy Headteacher in order for us to carefully review and understand how the final Teacher Assessed Grades had been awarded. Throughout these meetings we reviewed random samples of pupils work and were satisfied that a thorough quality assurance of the TAG was undertaken on a departmental level.

For more information about what is known as the 'Centre Assessed policy' that we were required to follow please see [here](#).

As a school we will also be subject to random sampling of evidence via exam boards in random subjects. The exam boards will also review subject portfolios and quality assure that the grades awarded are fair and accurate.

### Results Day

A hugely important day for our students and their families. GCSE results day will be on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021**. We will write to you nearer the time in order to provide details and times about the arrangements for your child to collect their results.

### Appeals

If you wish to challenge a GCSE grade you can do so by following the appeals process. For more information, please see [here](#).

### Information On the Website

We have published new pages on our website which brings together all the information you will need regarding the awarding of GCSE grades this year. You can view the pages [here](#).

I hope that you find this information useful and we look forward to seeing students when they come and collect their results

Kind regards



Arthur Barzey  
Head Teacher  
Heron Hall Academy