

Year 11 Updates – Jan 2021

What will happen with GCSEs?

1. We know that GCSEs will not run in their 'normal' manner
2. Gavin Williamson has asked OFQUAL to find a fair way to award GCSE grades
3. On Friday Jan 15th, OFQUAL released their consultation documents
4. These are readily available
5. Students, Teachers, and Parents can respond to the document before Jan 29th

The links to the consultations can be found below:

GCSEs - [GCSE consultation document](#)

VTQs - [VTQs consultation document](#)

Is there a summary of the consultation?

The main proposals/discussion of the consultation are below:

1. Decisions on final grades to be made as late as possible – this will keep engagement in learning (at home/in school) for as long as possible and will give students the opportunity to show what they can do.
2. Grades to be based on what has been achieved, as opposed to what 'would've' been achieved if full exams were sat – this will include any proposed assessments / mini exams which will be sat in the future (this is a different approach to GCSEs last year)
3. Exam boards could provide exam papers to help inform teachers in making their assessments – this could contain a mixture of different papers / multiple papers could be chosen

Is there a summary of the consultation?

The consultation proposes/discusses the following aspects:

4. Coursework / NEA will be included in any decisions made – exam boards will provide more guidance on any weighting required

5. Schools can use their own papers to help inform assessments – formal tests / mocks could be used as evidence

6. Exam boards will provide support on grading – this would uniform/standardise the process, reducing risk of potential bias, and take into account events out of a student's control.

Fullbrook's Response

1. We will await the final publication from OFQUAL before making any firm decisions
2. We have experience from last year from which we can draw on. Fullbrook will have robust, valid, and reliable systems and processes in place
3. We are fully committed to our ethos of enabling every student to have the opportunity to be 'better than they ever thought they could be'
4. We do intend on running the second assessment window for Year 11s. However, in light of school closures, we will postpone this assessment window until we can be confident that students have enough time to prepare fully

Year 11 Consultation Evening

- We look forward to seeing you on Wed/Thurs 20th/21st
- At these meetings, teachers will discuss Mock Results and progress thus far, including engagement in online learning
- Teachers will not discuss the potential Teacher Assessed Grades. There remain too many unknowns at this stage

What can my child do?

- Continue to engage fully in the online learning. Attendance at the sessions has been impressive thus far
- They can have their say in the consultation document outlined in the first slide
- Continue to speak with staff about any concerns they have
- Keep up those good habits and routines

When will schools re-open?

- The official guidance is after half-term
- This may change, depending on the factors outlined by the government
- We will communicate any information with you as soon as we have it

What about Prom?

- At this stage, we still fully intend on holding the Year 11 Prom and expect the normal end of year celebrations to go ahead in whatever capacity we are able to, in line with Government parameters.
- We will only cancel any festivities as a last resort, but always in accordance with the information from Public Health England and the Department for Education

Any other info?

- The Year 11 Pastoral Team will continue to help the students through the uncertain times
- Any updates / assemblies / information will be delivered through the tutor programme and shared via email/school website
- An example of which can be found here from Mr Smith

[Mr Smith Assembly - Jan 8th](#)