



Tring School

CEO of the RLP: Mrs Susanna Collings BSc(Hons), MA, FRSA
Head of School: Mrs Sally Ambrose BA(Hons), NPQH
Mortimer Hill Tring Herts HP23 5JD



8 January 2021

Dear Year 11 and Year 13 Students, Parents / Carers

I am writing to you all today in light of the news we all received at the start of the week regarding your final Summer exams. The news received was upsetting and frustrating for all of us, but most of all you, as you have been working so hard in recent months to prepare for your mock exams scheduled for the next few weeks. I am sure you will also be feeling frustrated and concerned as you do not yet know how your final grades will be calculated, I know I certainly am!

The Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson has confirmed that he wished to replace exams and "to use a form of teacher assessment grades" but you will be reassured to hear that, in stark contrast to last year, he will also provide "training and support to ensure these are awarded fairly and consistently across the country". Ofqual (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) went through a significant 'lessons learned' process after last summer and the ill-fated 'algorithm' will not be used this year. In his statement, Mr Williamson also said that plans would still need to be "fine-tuned". We would expect it to take several weeks for Ofqual to inform us formally of their new process.

What we do know is this:

- It is highly likely that any form of teacher assessment will include what you are doing now, and will do this term.
- We will continue to teach you remotely to the very best of our ability and to this end, all students must be attending their Google Meet lessons and completing the work that they are set by their teachers.
- Mock exams will take place. I have submitted a proposal to Hertfordshire County Council to be able to safely administer exams on our school site, using classrooms with a reduced number of students and using a staggered programme. If this is not permissible, we are looking at online assessment options.
- Students should continue to work towards the same goals that you have been set since September.
- All BTEC external exams scheduled for January and February will still take place.

I think it is also really important to remember that the point of school, and education in general, is to learn. It is not just to sit exams. You are all learning to adapt and develop your resilience as we have to adjust to a new way of learning and living our lives.

Tel: 01442 822303 Email: tringschool@tringschool.org www.tring.herts.sch.uk



My advice is to try not to worry or speculate, but instead continue to enjoy your learning and ensure that you attend all of your lessons, complete all of your homework, and remain fully engaged with school.

I will write to you as soon as I have a confirmed and safe plan for your mock exams and also how your final grades will be calculated.

Keep going everyone, you make us all proud every day.

Take care of yourself and stay safe,

Mrs Ambrose
Head of School