

Welcome to The Latimer Arts College

Year 11 and 13 Information Event

2021: The Path Ahead

20 January 2021



What we will be covering this evening:

- (1) Remote Education
- (2) Ofqual Consultation on how GCSE A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021
- (3) Next steps

(1) Remote Education



“Students are expected to engage fully with their education for the remainder of the academic year, taught for as long as possible and to cover as much of the curriculum as possible”.

(1) Remote Education

- Students are being set work for all examination subjects
- For Year 11 - 50% of lessons (2-3 lessons a day) are “live” with students expected to attend all lessons. For year 13 it is all lessons
- The remainder of learning is through independent study activities
- All learning needs to be completed with students engaged in activities – it is not enough just to attend the live lessons
- Students should be responding to feedback received from staff



(2) Ofqual Consultation on how GCSE A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021



- This information covers GCSE and A level exams.
- There is a separate consultation on BTEC examinations
- This is a consultation, NOT what is happening but **the outline of the proposal**
- Final decisions will be made **in February**
- It is important that as many people as possible take part in the consultation to help inform the final decisions
- The consultation has 60 questions – please do not be put off by this!
- We recommend completion as soon as you can after this event.
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/8BYI4T/>

(2) Ofqual Consultation Proposal Overview



Timing of Assessment:

- This years grades will be awarded based on ‘Teacher Assessment’
- The “assessment period” is proposed to be in May and June
- The proposal is that ‘results’ will be issued in July

(2) Ofqual Consultation Proposal Overview



Assessment Process

- Grades would be **NOT** be 'predicted' and so would **NOT** be based what students **COULD** have achieved had the pandemic not have happened
- Grades would be based on what a student is working at – 'what they know, can do and understand' at the point of the assessment process
- Teacher assessments may be informed by some form of external "assessment" - **exam board papers**.
- These '**exam board papers**' will not be the only evidence in creating a grade, but will be a significant part of the Teacher Assessment
- However, part of the consultation is to decide if and then how these '**exams**' would take place

(2) Ofqual Consultation Proposal Overview



The proposed use of “Exam board papers”:

- Any exam papers sat would be marked by teachers
- The exams would be similar to previous exams in lay out and style of questions
- As was the original plan they could be tiered in appropriate areas e.g. Maths

(2) Ofqual Consultation Proposal Overview

The proposed use of “Exam board papers”:



- Exam boards would provide information on the topics included in the exams and would cover a reasonable period of the course content
- Students would take papers which cover a similar proportion of the course across the country and there may be a choice of papers
- These papers would be taken in May/June
- If the pandemic continues the exams COULD, in extreme circumstances, be taken at home

(2) Ofqual Consultation Proposal Overview



Assessment Process

- ‘**Exams**’ would not be the SOLE deciding factor in the final grade awarded, but it is suggested will play a significant role in the final teacher assessment.
- However, other forms of information may be used to inform the final Teacher Assessed grade e.g. Mock examinations, Non-Examined Assessments (NEAs), Coursework
- Exam boards would provide guidance on the use of this other evidence and how it would relate to the “Exams”
- Exam boards would sample all of the evidence on which the submitted grades were based (the exam papers and other teacher information)
- In any appeal process it is likely that the exam paper would be the key factor

(2) Ofqual Consultation Proposal Overview



The role of Non-Examined Assessment (NEA):

- Teachers have been asked to take account of this element and to keep focussed on NEAs in the remaining time
- If and NEA has not been completed fully or parts are missing due to the impact of the pandemic, this will not disadvantage the student
- Teachers would decide how important the NEA is in the final grade, depending upon the qualification and the amount of work covered

(2) Ofqual Consultation Proposal Overview

The role of Non-Examined Assessment (NEA):



- Art is the only subject due to be based purely on portfolio evidence
- Other elements of subjects grades, such as the English spoken element, Science Required Practicals, - would also be submitted by staff and would be awarded as part of the exam grades issued, **but not form part of the final grade itself**

(3) The Next Steps



Responding to the Consultation:

- All parents and carers and students are encouraged to read and complete the consultation by **Friday 29th January**
- Please do not be put off by the 60 questions: some will be shorter than others to complete and you must make your voices heard!
- Sit together, with different devices if possible and complete together as you go along
- If you are struggling but want your voice heard email Ofqual directly with your view points - public.enquiries@ofqual.gov.uk.

(3) The Next Steps



Continuing the learning journey:

- Students have not yet completed their learning journeys and what they learn at school is not all about sitting an examination
- Subject content often provides the foundation of knowledge that students need for their individual next steps
- Nor do we yet know how grades will be awarded!
- Students need to keep studying and working hard, 'attending' all of their lessons: the efforts that they put in now, along with their prior effort and learning, will play a role in their final grade.

(3) The Next Steps



Care and Support:

- Students must not make comparisons to last year: their situation is different.
- Students need to not to worry – their focus should be on learning the remainder of their course content until we all know exactly how grades will be awarded
- There is time to ensure they get a fair grade based on the work they have completed so far, and the work they will complete going forward
- Teachers are still here to help – just give us a shout if you need us
- We will update you when we know more!

Ofqual Consultation on how GCSE A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021



- With results being dependent upon Teacher Assessment, please be aware that how we communicate with you about grades may be subject to change
- We will be releasing some information about mock exams, but no predicted grades, due to uncertain nature of the process and the changes which the system is undergoing
- These grades must be treated with extreme caution