



HOLY TRINITY

A Catholic and Church of England Voluntary Academy
The Hallam Schools' Partnership Academy Trust

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Dear Y11 Parent and Pupil,

Over the Easter holiday, Ofqual and JCQ have released further guidance for teachers for the awarding of Teacher Assessed Grades this summer. Exam boards are also continuing to work to provide support materials for teachers to use with their classes. Further training is yet to take place by JCQ and exam boards in assisting teachers to accurately determine Teacher Assessed Grades and to support schools in carrying out an internal quality assurance process.

Ofqual's stance on teachers not revealing Teacher Assessed Grades before results day on 12th August, means that we have had to take the decision not to publish a Y11 report at the end of April as we had planned. We kindly ask that you do not ask teachers about the grade. However, please be reassured that teachers can talk about the evidence which will be used to determine the grades and they will do so with their students. It should not be a surprise to students which pieces of assessed work will be placed into their evidence files but this cannot be a negotiation.

The new guidance makes it clear that students should expect that their grades will be determined by the evidence which they have produced and will continue to produce over the coming weeks. Further to this, the new guidance states that teachers will be asked to gather evidence for each student and as far as possible, these selected pieces of evidence must be *common* for all pupils. Any deviations from the *common* evidence, must be reasonably explained. This means that Heads of Departments must include the same pieces of evidence in your child's evidence file as the rest of the students as much as is practicably possible.

If you feel that your child may be disadvantaged compared to his/her peers in the teacher selection of *common* evidence due to Covid-19 related reasons or illness, you may wish to inform us about this and we may be able to take this into consideration when selecting pieces of evidence for your child. However, please be advised that this does not mean that teachers are allowed to give grades without evidence; evidence is still required but we may be able to locate an alternative piece of evidence produced by your child when these circumstances were not affecting them or we may be able to provide your child with the opportunity to do another similar assessed piece of work between now and the submission date. To inform us of any circumstances which you feel may have negatively affected your child in comparison to his/her peers, please contact the Exams Officer, D Whyke, DWhyke@holytrinitybarnsley.org with the following details: 1) What the circumstance involved, 2) Start and end date of the circumstance, 3) How you feel it affected your child, 4) Preferred contact number in-case we need to get in touch.

Please also be advised that if your child is entitled to access arrangements for exams, teachers have been reminded and will take this into consideration. Your child may be asked to stay for a short period of time at the end of the day to facilitate any entitlement to extra time. This is to ensure that they don't miss any valuable learning time in class. If this is the case, the class teacher will liaise with the Exams Officer who will inform you and make appropriate arrangements.

Finally, we would like to congratulate our Y11s for their positivity, hard work and perseverance in what we understand has been and continues to be a very challenging time. We are very proud of you all!

Yours sincerely,
J McCluskey
Acting Deputy Headteacher

Company Number 08665067



Diocese of
Hallam



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