

HOLBROOK ACADEMY



Headteacher: Thomas Maltby BA (Hons), MA, NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: George Anstee-Parry

1st March 2021

Dear Year 11,

Welcome to your final week of home-schooling. I know I speak for all your teachers when I say I cannot wait to get back into the classroom and work in a more 'normal' way. I also know that this period of time has been confusing and, perhaps, a little unsettling for some of you. We look forward to welcoming you back into school and to help you return to the school routine we have already let you know that mock exams will not take place before the Easter break.

Mr Maltby has written to parents and carers today and I would encourage you to read the letter through and discuss it with your family. I will be meeting with you at 8.30am tomorrow morning and wanted to give you a brief outline of what the grade awarding process this summer will mean to you.

- Teachers will be asked to determine a grade for you based on evidence of a wide range of work over the whole 2 years of the course instead of you taking public exams eg classwork, home learning, internal assessments, NEAs.
- Your teachers will continue to work with you to cover the content of the course but you will not be penalised if you haven't covered every topic.
- You should continue to do your best on your NEAs as teachers will still mark these and they could contribute to your grade.
- You will have further opportunities to show your teachers what you know and can do.
- By the Easter break, exams boards are going to provide schools with a bank of optional, exam style questions which teachers may set for you to help determine your overall grade.
- These exam style questions do not need to be taken under exam conditions and teachers can select questions on areas you have covered on the course, they will not be the only piece of work used to determine your grade.
- Students with access arrangements will be supported to use them in any further assessments.
- Teachers will be asked to take into account where access arrangements could not be used in previous work.
- We will let you know when any future assessments which will count towards your overall grade are going to take place and you will be fully prepared for them.
- In English Language, French and Spanish there will be no speaking exams, teachers will determine a grade for the endorsement based on evidence across the course.
- The school will put a quality assurance process in place to moderate grades to ensure they are consistent and fair, the exam boards will help schools to do this.
- Exam boards will sample the evidence held in schools and focus on making sure that the process used by schools to determine a grade is reasonable and based on evidence.



- Grades will not be determined by any one piece of work, so a particularly low or high outcome may not affect your overall grade.
- Teachers will make it clear to you which pieces of work will contribute to your overall grade before grades are submitted. You will be asked to confirm the work is your own and you didn't have any help.
- Teachers will not be able to tell you the grade they have submitted for you.
- We have been assured that it should not be any harder or easier to achieve a grade this year than in previous years and the processes the school and exam boards follow should not advantage or disadvantage any student.
- Grades must be submitted by the school to the exam boards by 18th June.
- Results will be issued on 12th August.
- You may appeal your result if you think the correct process has not been followed by the school, Mr Maltby has outlined the process in his letter to your parents. Following an appeal, the result could go down as well as up.

It is our intention, as ever, to communicate with you and your parents/carers throughout this phase and we will keep you informed of further developments as we receive them. In the meantime, my strongest recommendation to all of you is to keep working hard on set work, both at home and in school. The work that you produce over the coming months can still make a real difference to your grades and we are here to support you in demonstrating your best. If you have any queries, I shall be happy to try to answer them.

Further information for parents/carers and students can be found [here](#)

You may also find the following infographic from Ofqual useful.

[How grades will be awarded in Summer 2021](#)

Yours sincerely,



Mr Hart