

19<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Year 11 Parent/Carer

**Re: GCSEs Summer 2021**

You may have heard, in the national news, that the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, and Simon Lebus, the interim Chief Regulator of Ofqual, have been exchanging views on how best to proceed with awarding GCSE grades for Year 11 pupils in the summer 2021. They published letters on the 15<sup>th</sup> January which begin a period of consultation as to how exactly GCSE grades will be decided. The consultation will end on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January, after which firm guidelines will be issued to schools.

The links below will take you to each of the letters should you wish to peruse the proposals:

- **Gavin Williamson:**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-from-gavin-williamson-to-simon-lebus>
- **Simon Lebus:**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/simon-lebus-responds-to-the-secretary-of-states-letter-of-13-january-2021>

While we wait to have a clear sense of the processes to take in the awarding of GCSE grades, it is important that all Year 11 pupils attend the live lessons on offer by the school and complete the work set. You will notice, from the proposals, that one of Gavin's Williamson's aims is that grades are given as late as possible to ensure that a breadth and depth of evidence has been gathered. It is important, therefore, that pupils work steadily and conscientiously during this period of national lockdown.

I will be in touch again once the results of the consultation have been published.

Yours faithfully



Mr W Wharton  
Deputy Headteacher