



# Allerton Grange School

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👍 Allerton Grange School

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Our ref: SFI/RHA/Year 11

24 November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## Re: Contingency Arrangements for GCSE Exams

On the 11 November 2021, Ofqual released guidance on the contingency arrangements for GCSE, AS and A-level qualifications in 2021. This document seeks to clarify that, *although the government is firmly committed to exams going ahead in 2022, there needs to be a contingency plan in place for the unlikely event that exams have to be cancelled again because of the pandemic.*

The Ofqual release informs teachers *on how to collect evidence of students' performance for use should Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) be needed* and recommends that full and formal assessments should be conducted in *the second half of the autumn term 2021, during the spring terms of 2022 and within the first half of the summer term 2022.* Please be assured, that the full and formal pre-public exam (PPE) series conducted in September 2021 does conform to these guidelines and the predicted grades offered at the end of Year 10 do remain valid.

The Ofqual documentation details that teachers *'should plan so that across the assessments, students are assessed on a wide range of content, similar to that experienced in their Summer exams, and across the assessment objectives for the qualification'*. The assessment information we have collated up to this point is reliable and similar to the exams students will experience, if exams run as normal in Summer 2022.

**However, these assessments have not yet covered enough of the content nor the full assessment objectives of each qualification. This issue is exacerbated because Ofqual has not determined what the grade boundaries will be in summer 2022, so any grade calculation on current performance would be flawed.**

Unfortunately, the above information means that we will not be issuing grades on student performance at the forthcoming Year 11 Parents Consultation Evening, or the results event in form time on Monday 29 November. Instead, we will offer a raw score/percentage for each PPE and how that compares to an average for the cohort taking that qualification.

The raw score/percentage mentioned above, will continue to be used to support students learning ahead of the next PPE series. These marks will also allow us to assist students with all necessary interview preparation and applications to college/sixth forms. Please note, colleges and sixth form centres cannot reject applications until a final grade has been released. As such, there should be no detrimental impact on any student's application.



Allerton Grange School will be conducting our next round of Pre-Public Exams (PPEs), for Year 11 students, between 7 and 18 February 2022. By conducting another series of formal PPEs we are conforming to Ofqual in its guidance that '*students sitting GCSEs and A Levels in Summer 2022, should be assessed under exam conditions wherever possible*'. This second series of PPEs will provide further evidence of students' overall Year 11 performance and, depending on the next update from Ofqual (no later than 7 Feb 2022), we are hopeful of being in a position to offer a predicted grade after February half term.

The need for a third PPE series will be determined following the next Ofqual update.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Fidler', written in a cursive style.

Mr Steve Fidler  
Assistant Headteacher