



Aston Manor Academy

All different • All equal • All achieving

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HEADTEACHER: JILL SWEENEY



24th March 2020

To All Year 11 and Year 13 Students,

It was certainly an unusual week last week, and who could have imagined that the exam series for this year would be cancelled. This news came as a great shock to us all and has raised a great many questions.

It is a time of uncertainty for you, and a time of disappointment, as I know that you were all committed to achieving your best in the exams this year. It is still unclear for us as to how your grades will be calculated without you sitting your exams.

The information I have at the moment is that that Ofqual will develop and set out a process that will provide a calculated grade to be awarded to each student which reflects their performance as fairly as possible. Ofqual will work with the exam boards to ensure that this is consistently applied for all students. Their aim is to provide these calculated grades to schools, colleges and students before the end of July.

As things stand, the exam boards will be asking your teachers to submit their judgement about the A Level and GCSE grades that they believe each student would have received if exams had gone ahead.

These teacher assessed grades should be based on the overall qualification grade each learner is likely to achieve at the end of their course of study in each subject, based on their performance on a range of assessments, including performance in mock exams and non-exam assessments, and on their overall commitment to their studies and ability in each subject. Clear guidance on how to do this fairly and robustly will be provided to schools and colleges.

Gavin Williamson, Education Secretary has said *'My priority now is to ensure no young person faces a barrier when it comes to moving onto the next stage of their lives – whether that's further or higher education, an apprenticeship or a job'*.

The school will follow any guidelines laid out by the exam boards in order to predict a final grade.

That is all the information that I have at present. As soon as we find out anything further we will communicate this on the school web-site.

I know that this news is still probably sinking in, as you have all worked so hard, but this should not prevent you from going on to sixth forms, colleges and universities. You should still be proud of what you have achieved so far in your time at Aston Manor Academy, and we are all very proud of you.

Kind regards,

Ms J Sweeney
Headteacher

