



Ms Sue Lovecy, Head of School

Dear students, parents and carers,

11 January 2021

Year 10 2021 – exams update for Biology and MFL

We still await the detail of how you will be assessed in the summer this year, **but we now know that it will be your teachers that will assess you rather than formal, externally marked GCSEs.**

It is now absolutely vital that now **engage with online learning across all subjects but particularly in Biology and Languages** continue to work hard in all of your subjects.

You must attend all of the 'taught lessons' on your timetable and show evidence you have worked during your 'tutorial sessions' as **we will use your attendance as evidence** that you have completed the programme of study.

We will also **continue with the mock exams** that were planned for January, but we will be asking you to **complete them at home**. These will form one of the pieces of evidence which will go to support your grade. More details will be given next week but they **will NOT start this Monday (11 January) as originally planned on the timetable you were given last term.**

Your teachers will now determine your final grades for Biology and MFL this summer. They will have to use hard evidence to support the grades they award. For example, if you continue to complete grade 5 questions correctly when the Science team set homework this will become evidence towards them awarding you a grading 5. **Your teachers can not guess or pluck a grade out of the air. If you do not complete the work you will not receive the grade.**

You are likely to be set many exam questions between now and the summer and you must try your very hardest to achieve your highest grades on these.

Your GCSE grades are important for you to transition to the next phase in your education. Your GCSE grades are your ticket to the courses and apprenticeships that you wish to do.

The process will still be rigorous even if you don't sit any formal exams. As head of the exam Centre I will check every grade and ask for evidence for all grades.

This is your chance now to really achieve the very best grades in Biology and Languages without the stress of sitting the exams knowing that you had missed lots of time. **Seize this opportunity now to reach for the stars.**

We will do everything in our power to support you through this process and help you to achieve the best grades that you can achieve but you must work your hardest to do this.

When we have further detail to share, I will be in touch with you again.

Thinking of you all, stay safe

Sue Lovecy - Head of School