



07 April 2020

Dear Parents and Students

**GCSE and A Level: Awarding of Grades Summer 2020**

On Friday, the examination boards and the examination regulator, Ofqual, released updated guidance on how schools will provide the necessary information to enable your GCSE or A Level grades to be awarded this summer. In addition, Ofqual have written a letter for students and parents, a link to which was included in last week's Cardinal Wiseman Newsletter. We again provide a link to this letter: <https://tinyurl.com/vcwnnkh>.

We are being asked to rank students in each subject at GCSE and A Level with estimated grades, where we will indicate the most secure students in each grade down to the least secure. We will be using a variety of evidence in order to reach those judgements. Ofqual and the Department for Education have specifically stated that **at no point will we be able to reveal to students or parents the rank order or the estimated grades.**

Once submitted to the examination boards, the grades will be processed through a moderation calculation that will include cohort prior performance, where available, along with nationally expected outcomes for this year. That will no doubt change the boundaries at which some of our assessments sit and the grades we submit will be adjusted accordingly. This is being done so that overall pass rates do not differ from previous years.

Any student who is not happy with the grades they receive will have the opportunity to sit the examinations in the Autumn and an appeal system is also being put in place by Ofqual. In the case of students returning to Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form to study Level 3 courses, we will support them with preparation for these examinations.

After the Easter holiday, we will no longer provide work for Y11 and Y13 unless they specifically request it. Instead, we will look to provide transition work for moving to Sixth Form or into university; work that we think will be more appropriate now that we have received this information regarding grading. There is no need to submit further mock papers or coursework although we request that you keep these and hand them into school when lockdown is lifted.

We hope that you and your families are remaining safe and well during this difficult time. Should you need any support, we urge you to use the school website and contact the appropriate Head of Year or usual point of contact.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Everett  
Head of School

Mr T Leverage  
Executive Principal