

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear student/parent/carer,

We are writing to provide you with information following the government announcements about GCSE and A Levels this summer. We would like to begin by laying out the factual elements. It has been confirmed that the GCSE and A Level awards will be decided by teacher assessment. As has previously been stated, there will be no formal GCSE or A Level exams. Teachers will submit grades by 18<sup>th</sup> June and the result days will be 10<sup>th</sup> August for A Level and 12<sup>th</sup> August for GCSE.

Teacher assessed grades will be based on a holistic view of an individual's capabilities in any given subject. Teachers will look at evidence positively and use professional judgement to determine progress. It is also recognised that individual students progress at different rates and therefore teachers will be looking at the point that students have arrived at more than the development path.

Ofqual will be providing materials to help teacher assessment. This is not the same as 'mini-GCSEs/A Levels'. They are not compulsory for schools and are not intended to be sat in formal exam conditions. At this point we have not made a decision on using these materials. We will be looking at all the recent guidance and in the next couple of weeks we will formalise the process. The points for consideration include student wellbeing, a fair reflection of student potential, well balanced assessments and the timing. Should we use these assessments they are part of the evidence that will be used and not in place of professional teacher opinion.

We would like to advise all students to continue engaging in their studies. It will ensure that they are best placed to deal with any assessment arrangements with the least anxiety.

We will write again as soon as a well-structured plan has been put in place and we will support you through the process

Yours sincerely

*C Gardiner*

Miss C Gardiner  
Head of Sixth Form BHS

*R Field*

Mrs R Field  
Leader of Sixth Form BGS

