

July 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Year 11 students,

Firstly, to our Year 11 leavers: on behalf of the staff at Lyndon, we would like to thank you for your resilience since March following the school closure to the majority of students due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is a huge regret that we were not able to prepare you to sit your GCSE examinations and, following that process, say our goodbyes in the traditional Lyndon way. We have genuinely been impressed with your attitude and commitment shown throughout your years of study at Lyndon School; you are a credit yourselves, your parents and carers, and the school. You have been - and continue to be - in our thoughts.

Following the government announcement to cancel the exam series for the summer of 2020 and award students with Centre Assessed Grades, teaching staff, subject leaders and senior leaders have worked tirelessly to ensure students are awarded grades that befitted their ability, work ethic and performance to date. Staff were tasked with awarding grades that recognised the standard of work produced by the students and the level the work suggested students were working towards. *Ofqual* provided the following message for students on how schools should calculate their grades:

“Your school or college will be asked to send exam boards two pieces of information for each of your subjects, based on what they know about your work and achievements:

- *The grade they believe you were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned*
- *Within each subject, the order of students at your school or college, by performance, for each grade. This information will be used to standardise judgements- allowing fine tuning of the standard applied across schools and colleges*

Your school or college will consider a range of things like your classwork and homework; your results in assignments and any mock exams; any non-exam assessments (NEA) or coursework you may have done; and your general progress during your course.”

The full document regarding Centre Assessed Grades can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/897425/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE__AS_and_A_level__Extended_Project_Qualification_and_Advanced_Extension_Award_in_maths_020720.pdf

In order to ensure the process was carried out in a rigorous manner, the following approach was followed by all colleagues:

- Class teacher awards the grade based on the above listed criteria
- Subject Team Leader provided support and challenge
 - Amendments made, where applicable
- Grades submitted on a school level
- Senior Leadership Group provided support and challenge



LYNDON
SCHOOL



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Strength through Diversity | Ambition through Challenge | Excellence through Curiosity

Daylesford Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 8EJ | 0121 743 3402 | office@lyndon.org.uk | www.lyndon.org.uk

Summit Learning Trust. Incorporated in England & Wales, No.7348167. Registered Office Hartfield Crescent, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 7QG

- Amendments made, where applicable
- Grades agreed by all parties
- Grades submitted to relevant exam boards

In addition to the process above, colleagues were allocated ample time to undertake the process and were supported by their team leaders if they needed support or guidance.

Appeals

Due to the process that grades have been awarded this year, it has been decided by *Ofqual* that students will not be able to appeal the grades students receive this summer. Further information on this can be found on the *Ofqual* website:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/887048/Summer_2020_Awarding_GCSEs_A_levels_-_Consultation_decisions_22MAY2020.pdf

If students have any concerns about their grades they receive on results day, they should speak to the school staff in the first instance to decide how to proceed. Additionally, we have arranged for Solihull Sixth Form College to be available on results day to offer support or guidance to students regarding their place at the college.

Autumn series

Students who are unhappy with the grades issued to them will have the opportunity to sit exams in the Autumn term if they wish to do so. For GCSE subjects, this will take place in November 2020. Grades will be awarded on exam performance alone and will not take into account any NEA (Non-Examination Assessment, or coursework as it was known previously). As exam boards are still currently in the process of finalising the details and timetables for this, more information will be available on results day.

With Centre Assessed Grades and rankings now submitted, the focus for the school has turned to the dissemination of results to students. The school will continue with providing students with their results via envelopes from the school itself, albeit with social distancing measures and an allocated time depending on the surname of the student. The results will be available on **Thursday 20th August** in The Hub. We look forward to seeing as many students as possible on that day: individual students must sign and collect their results in person.

Students can collect their results at the following times:

Time	Group
9.00am – 9.30am	Surnames A - C
9.30am – 10.00am	Surnames D - H
10.00am – 10.30am	Surnames I - N
10.30am – 11.00am	Surnames O - S
11.00am – 11.30pm	Surnames T - Z
11.30am – 12.00pm	Additional time *

*** If you are unable to attend your original time slot, you must inform Ms. Jabeen to arrange to attend during this time slot.** To do this, **the student** must write to Ms. Jabeen (Exams Officer, asmajabeen@lyndon.org.uk) by Thursday 13th August.

If students are unable collect their results on 20th August, they must either:

- Provide the school with a stamped addressed envelope for results to be posted to them
or
- Nominate someone to collect their results on their behalf. To do this, **the student** must write to Ms. Jabeen (Exams Officer, asmajabeen@lyndon.org.uk) by Thursday 13th August, giving the

name of their nominated person and their relationship to the student. The nominated person must bring a form of identification with them when collecting results.

We would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation and support with abiding by the arrangements for results day to ensure we can comply with social distancing guidelines. If you wish to discuss any information in this letter, or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact one of us via the school telephone number or the office email address.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a happy, healthy and safe summer and we would like to wish all of our Year 11 students every success with their future plans. Please keep in touch to share your future journey with us.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Michael Szwaba, Vice Principal (Achievement, Assessment and Attendance)

Mr. David Hawkins, Assistant Principal (Assessment, Recording and Reporting)

Ms. Asmat Jabeen, Exams Officer