

## **TAG Update 6: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021**

Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 have almost completed all the assessments that their teachers need to be able to decide the grades this summer. We continue to be impressed with the efforts that students have put into their work, and are sure that they are looking forward to relaxing over the half term break! The marking and standardisation of this work has been a major undertaking but as a school we are on track to move onto the grading process next week.

The system that we will be using to decide the grades this year does depend on the course:

### **Vocational subjects (BTECs and Cambridge Nationals)**

For these subjects, most of the marks are usually derived from internally-assessed units of work which students complete as they go through the course. The awarding organisations (Pearson and Cambridge) reduced the amount of work which needed to be completed to reflect the periods of time students spent working at home. Teachers have marked the completed assignments against the normal criteria and will be able to recommend an overall Qualification-Level Teacher Assessed Grade (Q-TAG). The marking of the assignments has been checked both internally and externally by Standards Verifiers.

### **Academic subjects (GCSE, A and AS Level)**

Teachers have decided which assessments will count towards the final grade, and how much each assessment will count (the 'weighting'). Teachers will then use the grade descriptors which have been published by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ), and the exemplification documents from the exam boards to decide which grades should be awarded to each student. Teachers can only use these assessments in their grade decisions in order to keep the process fair and objective.

We expect that this will be complete by 7<sup>th</sup> June, when we shall be moving on to our 'high level' internal quality assurance process before sending the grades to the exam boards by the 18<sup>th</sup> June deadline.