



THE STONEHENGE SCHOOL

NDR/dah

20th March 2020

HOLDERS ROAD
AMESBURY
SALISBURY
WILTSHIRE SP4 7PW



Maths &
Computing

Tel: 01980 623407

E-mail: admin@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

www.stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

Headteacher

Mr. N. D. Roper B.Sc., NPQH

School Business Manager

Mrs. C. Busby B.A. (Hons), ADSBM

For the attention of all Year 11 students

The Department for Education has released a statement in the past half hour explaining how your GCSE grades will be awarded this summer. I have summarised the key points below, which I hope you find reassuring. Clearly more detail still needs to be worked out and I will contact you again once the process is fully understood.

"GCSE students are awarded a grade which fairly reflects the work that they have put in. There will also be an option to sit an exam early in the next academic year for students who wish to. Ofqual will develop and set out a process that will provide a calculated grade to each student which reflects their performance as fairly as possible, and will work with the exam boards to ensure this is consistently applied for all students. The exam boards will be asking teachers, who know their students well, to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead.

To produce this, teachers will take into account a range of evidence and data including performance on mock exams and non-exam assessment – clear guidance on how to do this fairly and robustly will be provided to schools and colleges. The exam boards will then combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment, and use this information to produce a calculated grade for each student, which will be a best assessment of the work they have put in.

The aim is to provide these calculated grades to students before the end of July. In terms of a permanent record, the grades will be indistinguishable from those provided in other years. We will also aim to ensure that the distribution of grades follows a similar pattern to that in other years, so that this year's students do not face a systematic disadvantage as a consequence of these extraordinary circumstances.

We recognise that some students may nevertheless feel disappointed that they haven't been able to sit their exams. If they do not believe the correct process has been followed in their case they will be able to appeal on that basis. In addition, if they do not feel their calculated grade reflects their performance, they will have the opportunity to sit an exam at the earliest reasonable opportunity, once schools are open again. Students will also have the option to sit their exams in summer 2021."

Mr N D Roper , Head Teacher.

