



NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' ACADEMY

*We believe in creating a community empowered with the qualities,
skills and qualifications to enter the next phase of life with
confidence and ambition.*

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1 April 2021

Dear Year 11 and 13 students (and their parents and carers)

RE: GCSE and A Level Grades 2021

I know that many of you are understandably anxious about your grades this year. Despite that, the level of maturity, commitment, and resilience you have shown since we returned to school (and all year) has been impressive and is a real credit to you.

As we went into another lockdown at Christmas, you were told by the government that you would not need to sit exams, but now the process they want us to use to award you grades involves assessments (which I imagine just feels like another word for exams)!

Worse still, we haven't been able to give you much detail of what these assessments will look like or what they will cover as we haven't had that information ourselves.

Yesterday, we received our first access to the assessment materials the exam boards are providing to us. Exam boards will also give you access to these materials after Easter. For us, this will finally help us to complete our planning so we can tell you what topics will be covered by the assessments in each subject and when these will take place. For you, this will mean an opportunity to practice and prepare.

We have asked your teachers to give you as much information as they are able to about what to revise over Easter. We know that for many of you this will help you focus and is just what you need. For some others it may overwhelm you a bit. Please just take things one step at a time – there is a reason the famous BBC revision website is called Bitesize! We will be here to help and support you after Easter.

Your teachers in each of your subjects will have communicated revision lists with you in different ways (verbally, printed lists, revision handouts) but most are also putting this information onto your class Teams channels or OneNotes. If you are not sure where to look, please just ask.

We will provide you with more concrete information as soon as we can after Easter when your teachers have really had a chance to evaluate the assessment materials and we have completed the Centre Policy that is a requirement of the process this year (full details can be found [here](#)).

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- We strive to fulfil everyone's learning potential. • We value high standards, hard work and a ceaseless desire to improve.
 - We provide a safe, kind, nurturing and inclusive environment. • We enjoy the journey together.



Remember, you will only be assessed on the elements of the course that have been studied.

In the meantime, the following timeline should act as a rough guide from now until the end of next term (but please be aware that it might be subject to change as we finalise our planning):

End March 2021	Exam board guidance issued
2 April 2021- 16 April 2021	<u>Easter Holidays</u> Revision for assessments.
19 April 2021 – 14 May 2021	Teaching/revision time in lessons
1 May 2021- 31 May 2021	Assessments and marking
31 May 2021 – 16 June 2021	Quality Assurance of Centre Assessed Grades
18 June 2021	Deadline for grades to be submitted to Examination boards
10 August 2021 12 August 2021	A level results day GCSE results day

We know this situation is far from ideal, but we will do all we can to make sure the process is as clear and as fair as possible.

Please try to have some fun and relax this Easter as well as giving yourself the reassurance that only revision and practice can bring.

Yours faithfully



David Tungate
Principal
Nottingham Girls' Academy

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