

# AWARDING GRADES 2021

**MARCH 2021**

# SUMMER EXAMS – WHAT IS HAPPENING?

- The DfE and Ofqual have made decisions on how the process will work this year.
- However, we still await further guidance from exam boards which will come before the end of March. Until then, details cannot be finalised.
- Exam boards will be producing ‘exam-style’ papers to help teachers with the awarding of grades.
- The grades students achieve will be recognised in the same way as previous years. They will help students progress to the next stage.

# OVERVIEW OF AWARDING GRADES.

- The school has been asked to grade students on the standard they are working at. **This means grading students on what they know, understand and can do.** Teachers cannot judge their potential or predict grades – it **MUST** be based on evidence that teachers see from the students.
- Grades will be subject to rigorous moderation within school, evidence will be reviewed by Heads of Department and Senior Leaders.
- Grades must be submitted to exam boards by Friday 18 June.  
**Therefore, students still have time to show us their best work**

# WHAT WILL BE ASSESSED?

- We can use a range of evidence to make a judgement of the grade that students are performing at.
- Students will only be assessed on what the cohort has been taught.
- A range of work can be considered as evidence (from before lockdown, during lockdown and on return to school) as long as teachers are sure it is students own work.

# WHAT EVIDENCE CAN BE USED?

- Summer Assessments - work produced in response to material released by the exam boards later this term.
- NEA (Non Exam Assessment), even if not fully complete.
- Any work produced that reflects the exam specifications with exam style questions. This could be:
  - Substantial classwork or homework
  - Mock exams or past papers completed
  - Internal tests (before and after lockdown)
  - Any records of progress and performance over the GCSE/AS/A Level course. For BTEC courses, teachers will explain the process to students in more detail as it is slightly different.

# WHEN WILL ASSESSMENTS TAKE PLACE?

- Additional assessments will take place under controlled conditions.
  - Students will be given plenty of time to revise.
  - Students will be told the content areas/paper that is being assessed.
  - There will be 2 “assessment windows” where exam board materials will be used.
    - Assessment window 1: Week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> April
    - Assessment window 2: Late May
- Schools are also able to use work completed so far in addition to this

# RESULTS DAYS

- Results days will take place in August:
  - AS and A Level – **Tuesday 10 August 2021**
  - GCSE – **Thursday 12 August 2021**
- Students **CANNOT** find out their grades before results day.

# WHAT SHOULD STUDENTS DO NOW?

- Students should try not to worry too much and focus on their learning. This will prepare them as best as possible for future learning and give them the best possible chance of high grades.
- When we receive further details from the Exam Boards we will update you.



# HOW ARE WE SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD?

- Additional academic support
  - Period 6
  - Saturday lessons
  - Extensive Easter revision programme
  - Early morning intervention sessions
- A place to study – PREP open until 7pm
- Careers guidance sessions
- Extra-curricular clubs
- Pastoral drop in system

## FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you have any questions then please send them to:  
[parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk](mailto:parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk)