

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

ripleystthomas.com
Ashton Road Lancaster LA1 4RS



01524 64496
admin@ripley.lancs.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I can now confirm that the guidance for the awarding of GCSE and A Level grades for the Summer 2021 series has been finalised. Detailed information for students, parents and guardians can be found at <https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/JCQ-Guidance-for-Students-and-Parents-on-Summer-2021.pdf>

The key points of the process are outlined below:

The Assessment Evidence

Your child's teachers will use a range of evidence to contribute towards their final grade. This will be made up of pieces of work they have already completed during the course as well as short assessments which they will sit during the coming weeks. Some of these assessments have been produced by the exam board and will be made publicly available from Monday. This evidence will be collated into a portfolio and students will be made aware of which assessment evidence is being used to determine their final grade.

As outlined in my letter before Easter, from Monday 26 April there will be an assessment window during which students will sit these assessments. These will be conducted under exam-style conditions. Some will take place in the classroom and some may take place in the sports hall. Access arrangements will be in place for students who are entitled to them.

We will be publishing a timetable of when these assessments will take place in the coming days, once we have gathered this information from class teachers.

There is no 'special consideration' process this year. In the document linked above, there is information regarding what to do if you believe your child's performance in a particular piece of evidence was affected by illness or personal circumstances.

Grade Awarding

Once all the evidence has been collected and marked, a moderation process will take place. The evidence will be collated in an 'evidence portfolio' and teachers will use this to determine the overall grade.

Whilst teachers will be able to give marks for individual assessments, they are not allowed to tell students or parents what the final Teacher Assessed Grade will be.

We understand this is an anxious time for parents and students and that you may wish to contact your child's teacher regarding the grade they are going to be awarded. We ask that you do not do this. Undue pressure from students or parents constitutes malpractice and schools have been asked to report such incidents to the exam boards.

Believe.....

Principal Mrs C Walmsley
Chair of Governors Mrs J Garnett

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Receiving Grades

Detailed information on the format of results days will be issued later on in the school term.

- A Level students will receive their results on Tuesday 10 August 2021.
- GCSE students will receive their results on Thursday 12 August 2021.

Any errors with grades received on results day (e.g. administrative errors), can be addressed through the appeals process. Full details of this process can be found in the previously mentioned JCQ Guidance for Students & Parents.

I appreciate that the past year has been challenging for all pupils, particularly Year 11 & 13 who have had to endure a great deal of uncertainty about their future. I would like to reassure you that our teaching staff are working extremely hard to make sure our students are well prepared for the assessment tasks they will need to complete during this half-term.

It would be helpful if you could ensure your child attends school every day and continues to fully apply themselves in lessons and during assessments. It is important that students understand that their grades will depend on the quality of work that they produce, much like during a normal summer examination series.

I am confident that our students will put in the necessary work over the coming weeks, and this, alongside the commitment and experience of our dedicated staff, will ensure they receive the grades they richly deserve.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Walmsley
Principal