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@RuskinHigh  
Ruskin Community High School

**Our Ref:** HeadteacherSA: parental ltrs/SZY/JOD  
**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing with an update regarding GCSE assessment in light of the outcomes of the exam consultation which was published yesterday. Many reports in the media yesterday implied the whole process of grading would be left exclusively to teachers. Whilst accurate, yes, your child’s teacher will be responsible for awarding the grade, teachers will have a number of rules to adhere to and evidence to support grades will be essential. Additionally, grades submitted will undergo quality assurance by the exam boards and samples of work may be called for. Therefore, it is crucial students recognise, that whilst external exams are cancelled, we will need to continue to assess them in school.

We now await subject specific information from each exam board regarding grading and assessment. We believe we will receive this before the end of the Spring Term. What we do know is that ongoing assessments we complete in class may be used to supplement our evidence base for each student. We will continue to inform students which work might be used to inform their final grade. Nationally, the final deadline for submission of grades is 18<sup>th</sup> June, and we will strive to give all students every opportunity between now and then to demonstrate their skills and knowledge. Below are two links to documents, written for parents and students, which I think you may find useful:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/964613/Infographic\\_how\\_GCSEs\\_AS\\_and\\_A\\_levels\\_will\\_be\\_awarded\\_in summer\\_2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964613/Infographic_how_GCSEs_AS_and_A_levels_will_be_awarded_in_summer_2021.pdf)

<https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/25/what-you-need-to-know-about-grades-in-2021/>

As you are aware, on Monday, we will hold an additional Parents’ Afternoon/Evening where you can meet with your child’s teachers. It will not be possible for us to discuss the awarding of grades at this time. We will focus on giving advice on which areas may be improved taking recent assessments into account. To make best use of this time, we request that students are present with you on the video call.

I will be back in touch as soon as I have any additional information to share with you. In the meantime, please rest assured that we will do everything we can to ensure our students have every chance of success in what remains of their final year at Ruskin.

Yours sincerely

E Szymura (Miss)  
Deputy Headteacher

