

16 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you as the Parent/Carer of a Year 10 student, to inform you of a few different assessment related topics that are relevant to you and your child.

Before I do, I would just like to begin by expressing how pleased we are to have students back with us, fully immersed in face to face teaching, albeit in accordance with our stringent risk assessed practices.

Whilst the majority of subjects studied by students will be completed in Y11, meaning students are not impacted by cancelled GCSE exams this summer, there are some subjects that students will be completing this year. I wanted to write to you to inform you of how these subjects will be assessed

### **Subjects Completing in Y11**

For subjects completing next year (English, maths, science, history, geography and Spanish), students will be assessed as normal by GCSE formal examination at the end of Year 11. In order to accurately assess student progress up to this stage, all Y10 students will take part in a mock exam week on the week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> May. Students have been informed of this, and further details will be shared with parents and carers closer to the time.

### **Subjects Completing in Y10**

For students who will be completing a vocational course this year and therefore will be awarded a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG). I would like to bring you up-to-date with the latest news regarding the national picture for awarding vocational subject grades in 2021.

Vocational qualifications are the subjects your child studies, such as Art and Design, Design Technology, Health and Social Care, Sport Studies, Creative iMedia and Hospitality and Catering. There are some students who, due to timetabling, will be completing Health and Social Care and Creative iMedia next year – these are class sets 10A/H1 and 10A/ IT2.

### **The current picture:**

You will find the outcomes of the government consultation into awarding of vocational grades, summer 2021, laid out in the document below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/vocational-technical-and-other-general-qualifications-in-2021>

The key points to note:

- Students should continue to work on their coursework for subjects as appropriate.
- Teachers can use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform their judgement.

Deanstones Lane, Queensbury, Bradford, BD13 2AS  
tel: 01274 882214 email: [contactus@bradford.trinitymat.org](mailto:contactus@bradford.trinitymat.org) web: [bradford.trinitymat.org](http://bradford.trinitymat.org)

- Overall, it will be no easier or harder for a student to achieve a particular grade this year compared to previous years.

I would stress however that OFQUAL have aligned this vocational approach to that used for teacher awarded GCSE grades, and that there are similar expectations of robust quality assured procedures to ensure that staff can award students grades fairly and with integrity.

Given previous disruption, assessment content has been streamlined, nevertheless the onus on schools to provide quality assured evidence to the awarding bodies is crucial.

It is therefore essential that your child utilises lessons productively, attends all achieve sessions made available to them, and completes coursework or practical assessments to the best of their ability.

### **Exam Board Changes**

We are always reviewing the best ways for us to support our students with gaining the best possible qualifications, and as a result of this, some subjects have made the decision to change the exam board that they will use with Y10. We thought it would be useful to share this information with you so that you can refer your child to the correct revision resources should they ask. If you have any questions about these changes, please contact the Academy.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>New Exam Board</b>	<b>Old Exam Board</b>
Science	OCR Gateway A - Sceince	AQA - Science
Geography	AQA - Geography	Edexcel A - Geography
Sport	Pearson BTEC Level 2 First Award - Sport	OCR Cambridge National – Sport Studies
Design Technology	WJEC - Engineering	AQA – Design and Technology

We will do our utmost to support students and make every effort to minimise any anxiety they may experience, however, if you or your child need any additional advice or support, please visit our website <https://bradford.trinitymat.org/key-info/emotional-health-wellbeing/> for further guidance.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the academy directly.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr Tom Taylor  
Acting Principal

Deanstones Lane, Queensbury, Bradford, BD13 2AS  
tel: 01274 882214 email: [contactus@bradford.trinitymat.org](mailto:contactus@bradford.trinitymat.org) web: [bradford.trinitymat.org](http://bradford.trinitymat.org)