



20-21-298

17 March 2021

TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

Dear Parent/Carer and Year 11 pupils

Teacher Assessment Grades (TAGs)

Following my letter on Friday 12 March 2021, I am writing to detail our plans for the awarding of Teacher Assessment Grades (TAGs) for the class of 2021 at Cams Hill School.

This is our first formal communication about the process, which we have been keen to get to you soonest. Please be advised that the Exam Boards are yet to publish their specific subject guidance to schools; consequently, our plan may need to evolve to reflect this guidance when it is released. I would anticipate that there may be minor amendments when these materials eventually arrive with us.

The TAGs process is in place to ensure that all pupils receive a fair grade reflective of their achievement overall within each subject. It is vital to ensure that no pupil is disadvantaged by the disruption caused by the global pandemic. Finally, and most importantly, the process must ensure that we are supporting all pupils to move on to the next step in their education journey as smoothly as possible; to start their life beyond Cams Hill School with confidence and a high quality secondary school experience behind them.

What is a TAG?

As you are aware, the 2021 Summer Exams Series has been cancelled. These exams have been replaced by TAGs with all schools using the best available evidence that they have gathered/will gather for each and every pupil to show their ability. To determine the TAG, your child's teachers, the departments they work in and the Senior Leadership Team will look at a range of evidence (historic and current) such as mock exams, in class assessments and controlled assessments (in relevant subjects).

In-Class Assessments (ICAs)

To contribute to the evidence bank, there will also be a series of In-Class Assessments (ICAs) scheduled in all subjects between **Wednesday 21 April and Wednesday 19 May 2021**. All assessments carried out will be focussed on the curriculum content that your child has covered and pupils will be informed of topics to be tested prior to the ICAs to support their revision. Dates of all ICAs will be shared with you via the school website in due course. We hope to finalise these prior to the Easter holiday. Pupils eligible for Access Arrangements will be fully supported for ICAs as required.

Subjects with a Controlled Assessment Element

In subjects with a large controlled assessment element, this assessment will be used to form all or part of your child's grade. Again, any time missed will not count against pupils and in the time remaining in school, their teacher will support all pupils in class to complete areas they need to complete.

Year 11 Parents' Evening

The Year 11 Parents evening on the **30 March 2021** is a timely opportunity to discuss your child's progress and attitude to learning. Teachers will also identify what pupils can still do to improve their skills, knowledge and understanding and what individual pupils should be working on at home to prepare for their ICAs. The evening will not be to talk about your child's potential grade, but is there to support pupils progress towards the best outcomes for them as individuals.

Year 11 Leaving Date

We have not yet confirmed a leaving date for Year 11 pupils although this has of course been a topic for discussion. This will be dependent on Exam Board materials received; the schedule and successful completion of ICAs plus moderation activities that will be undertaken subsequently. We will inform all pupils, parents and carers as soon as this decision has been made. Mrs Seve (Head of Year 11) is keen to organise an end of year celebration but the scheduling of a formal 'prom' sadly remains too higher risk at this stage.



Class of 2021 Results Day

The Government have confirmed that GCSE results will be issued on **Thursday 12 August 2021**.

I will of course inform you of any developments as they happen over the next few weeks. The awarding of TAGs is a significant process that we need to ensure has clarity, consistency and reliability and that our Year 11 pupils and their families are fully appraised of the process at the earliest possible opportunity. Thank you for your patience.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G Harrison-Jones
Headteacher