Year 11 - GCSE Information

Dear Year 11,

We hope this finds you all well and you're beginning to think about the exciting times in the near future with your next journey, be that college, apprenticeships or the world of work. We know the way that Year 11 came to a sudden end was really not the way any of us wanted it to be, however there are a few things in this letter which will hopefully outline some of our plans.

The first thing to mention is our Year 11 portal – if you have not already, do visit the site:

http://frog.noadswood.hants.sch.uk/year11portal



You will find a wealth of information on the site, including specific college information, subject content for college courses, some good sites for personal development etc... You will also see a page about Prom which is asking for your suggestions — we want to make sure there is something for you, at the time that we are able to, so would love to hear your ideas.

The key part to this message is to outline the GCSE results day and some information about how the Department for Education (DfE) asked for your gradings, which we will explain below...

- 1. Your teachers, along with curriculum leaders, were asked to give you a judgement GCSE grade taking into account the evidence of work you have done (mocks / work in lesson / work that was integral to the KS4 course).
- 2. Your teachers were asked to rank these grades for example if 10x students were projected to get a grade 6 in History they were ranked 1 (most likely) to 10 (least likely).
- 3. These judgement grades and ranks are not allowed to be shared with candidates before Results Day, Thursday 20th August 2020*.
- 4. These grades have been given to the exam boards but are highly unlikely to be your final grade the exam boards will then standardise the grades nationally to fit an expected national pattern (they will look at KS2 results / the results candidates have historically achieved at Noadswood in that subject).



There is an extensive Ofqual document attached (<u>click here</u>) to see the process they are employing.



Results Day

Our plan, at the moment, is to continue with a socially distanced Results Day on Thursday 20th August, held in the Drama Studio / outside on the amphitheatre where you can collect your results. The timings will be split for Houses as follows



Anderwood: 9.30am - 10.00am



Deerleap: 10.15am – 10.45am



Knightwood: 11.00am - 11.30am



Wilverley: 11.45am - 12.15am

We're really pleased that lots of our staff will be on hand to give you support, guidance and well wishes for when your results are collected.

If you are not able to collect your results in person in order for us to release results to anyone else you will need to send a representative with a signed letter by you, permitting them to collect results on your behalf. They must bring ID to confirm who they are.

Exam Certificates are not issued by the Exam Boards until much later in the term. We usually hold a Presentation Evening - more information about this will follow. Colleges and employers are aware that you will not have exam certificates until later and are happy to accept your Statement of Results.



Appeals

Remember, the GCSE judgement grade your teacher gave is not necessarily going to be the GCSE grade you are awarded due to the national standardisation. The guidance for appeals and going forward are laid out in the letter link above. The key message is:

- 1. Teachers across the country, were asked to make holistic judgements for grades based on what students would have most likely achieved had they been able to sit the exams in the normal way. They have been asked to use their professional expertise to draw on all evidence available, not just the mock grades. The mocks will form a good indication of expected performance, but it was not the only evidence looked at for those worried about underperforming in the mock exams.
- 2. You cannot appeal your judgement grade/rank or the final standardised grade you have been awarded. The only appeal you can lodge is if the centre believes there has been an error with the submitting of information / the exam board made a mistake calculating the grade.
- 3. On results day, by request, you can ask to see your GCSE judgement grades and ranks given to you by your teachers

Autumn Exams

More information will follow from the DfE, but our understanding is that autumn exams will exist for students unhappy with the awarded grade for any subject. This is something that the DfE are consulting on and will inform nationally when a decision has been made but it likely that these exams will take place in October / November 2020 (and the qualification will consist of just an exam component (no coursework)).

We hope this helps in explaining some of the details but do get in contact with your House Leader before the end of term if you require any more guidance and we will see you all on August 20th.

We're really looking forward to seeing you all and celebrating every success with you on this special day.

We shall see you soon,

Miss Marshall and Noadswood Leadership Team