



CALLINGTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Principal: Mrs Wendy Ainsworth



26 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Year 11 / Year 13 Cancellation of Summer Examinations 2020

Exams for the current Year 11 and Year 13 have been cancelled for this summer. Regardless of what happens over the next few weeks, they will not be reinstated. The reason for cancellation is the potential length of disruption to society due to the Coronavirus. Schools are also being asked to focus on support for vulnerable children and the children of keyworkers.

The information set out thus far by the DfE (click [here](#)) indicates that schools will be asked to provide predicted grades to support the process of calculating what grades students will be awarded this summer. It is planned that results are released before the end of July. The predicted grades we supply will not necessarily be the grade students are awarded. If a student feels that their result is not a fair reflection of how they would have performed, they will have three options:

1. Appeal the grade awarded (the way of doing this will be made clear at a later stage)
2. Sit the exam at the earliest opportunity (possibly at the start of the new academic year – mid to end of September?)
3. Sit the exam in the summer exam series 2021.

The professional predicted grades we provide will be based upon a range of factors – schools will be given instructions as soon as possible but these are likely to include past performance of the College, teacher assessments including mock examinations, class work, formative and summative assessment and trajectory leading up to the Summer examinations as well as how students performed at the end of the last Key Stage (Year 6 SATs for Year 11 and GCSEs for Year 13), known as prior attainment. Exam boards have in previous years used teacher assessment to award grades to students who cannot sit their exams, for example, those who fall ill immediately before an exam, so this is not a new process.

I wish to reassure families that we will work hard to ensure that predicted outcomes are a fair reflection of work that has been, was being and would have been put in over the final weeks leading up to the exams – predicting is something we do every year and have refined over a number of. It is worth being clear that the outcome achieved in an exam is the result of a lot more than some last-minute cramming, it is the result of years of work and mock examination results are just one indicator of potential exam performance. We are well aware that it is not necessarily the case that the mock grades achieved in November or March exactly matches the result achieved in the summer – for some, they encourage an enhanced rate of work or an opportunity to focus on gaps in knowledge to further strengthen already strong performance.

The grades issued in the summer will not be distinguishable (different in appearance) from the grades issued last summer or before that. Year 13 students will be treated flexibly so that they can progress to Higher Education.

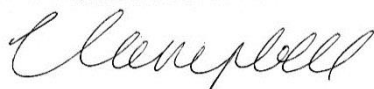


Advice on NEA (Non Examination Assessment) used in BTEC or Cambridge National qualifications specifically has not yet been released by the DfE and Ofqual. Until we know for sure, students can continue working on NEA where they have the materials to do so and are able to do so in case the evidence is called for at a later date. It would also be unfair if a student that doesn't have the materials available and can't access them were to be disadvantaged because of this. I would imagine we will have some clarity on the process by the end of the scheduled Easter break and can give more certainty at that point.

We understand that students may be disappointed that they have not been able to sit their exams. Please remember that, if they do not feel that their calculated grade (released in July) reflects their performance, they will have the opportunity to appeal, or to sit an exam, as reasonably possible. We will continue to support all students to access the next step of their education journey. We have produced guidance (attached) to support students to consider their options during this period of school closure.

Thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times. Stay safe.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Charlotte Campbell', written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Miss Charlotte Campbell
Vice Principal