



20 May 2021

Dear parents and carers of students in Years 10 and 11.

Teacher assessed grades instead of national examinations.

As you are well aware, national examinations are not going ahead but those finishing their qualifications this summer will still receive a grade from the exam board based on teacher assessed grades that the school is required to submit in the coming weeks.

At Lowton, students in Year 10 have been entered for RS GCSE and students in Year 11 have been entered for all their subjects. The school is required to submit teacher assessed grades to the relevant exam board by Friday 18 June.

Last week, myself and Mr Carter (Director of Assessment) ran assemblies for Years 10 and 11 on the process we are following in school in the context of the national guidance all schools are working to.

There is a link below to a **video** you can watch which explains this process in detail to you as parents.

<https://youtu.be/jq3HZmmJUok>

One of the key points to stress is that we are not able to tell you or your child the grades that we submit to the exam boards so, in the nicest possible way, please do not ask any teachers as they are bound by confidentiality and a signed declaration not to tell you. The school will be subject to a quality assurance process by exam boards that could change the grades submitted, which means they may go up, stay the same or be lowered through that process.

Please be assured that we are drawing on all the available evidence we have to arrive at a fair and accurate grade that does not disadvantage any child as a result of the pandemic that has caused such unplanned disruption to their learning.

Your child is only being assessed on what they have been taught (not what they have missed) and in the context of the national guidance all schools are working to.

Each school is required to provide a 'Centre Assessment Policy' that will become the basis for the exam boards checking with a school that the requirements set out by the Joint Council of Qualifications (JCQ) is followed. You can view this policy on our school website

https://www.lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/policies/Centre_Policy_GCSE_Grading_Summer.pdf

Thank you, as ever, for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Larkin
Headteacher

CARING, LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING