



23rd March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are writing to you to give you an update regarding the results of the exams consultations for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. It has been confirmed that grades awarded this summer by teachers will be based on what the students have been taught, although there is an expectation of breadth of curriculum coverage. There will be no algorithm but exam boards may ask to sample the evidence that teachers have used and based their grades on. The evidence that teachers gather will come from a range of sources such as

- exam board materials made available from Easter (previously seen and unseen)
- in class assessments (control conditioned tests and/or assignments)
- work completed at home
- any mock examinations that have previously been completed
- coursework and
- work completed in Year 9 and 10 (GCSE/BTEC) and Year 12 (A Level/BTEC)

All the above evidence will be marked and assessed by our teachers. Grades will be submitted to the exam boards by no later than 18th of June. The starting point for awarding any grades is the understanding that students have the ability to reach the next level. At Carshalton High School for Girls we want to take a sensible, measured approach and therefore will be no high stakes 'exams fortnight' completed in the Main Hall. Instead students will complete a variety of assessments and students will be informed in advance of when assessments will take place with guidance given on what to revise.

We will ensure that there will be set of shared key CHSG principles which will be followed by all departments but subjects will be able to tailor their assessment plans that will best support the students in their subjects. Teaching of new material will stop at the end of this term at the very latest and students will have a number of opportunities to showcase their knowledge, skills and understanding. Each department will ensure there is a consistent approach of opportunity for all students and those with access arrangements will be given the necessary amount of support for any impending assessments. There will be no study leave, we are awaiting guidance on when or if Year 11 and 13 students can leave.

The Department for Education has announced there will be an appeals process although they are yet to release more details about how this will work. However, the appeals will act as a safety net; to identify errors not picked up earlier in the process. It is important to be aware that appeals can move grades up or down or remain the same. Vocational and technical qualifications will continue to follow a teacher assessment approach. There will be a full series of exams in the Autumn for students who do not feel the teachers assessed grade matches their ability.

Results will be issued for A level / BTEC students on the 10th August and GCSE results will be available on the 12th August.

We understand the challenges of the past year. But we are adamant no students will be disadvantaged, if they, their class or their whole year group have been unable to complete their full course. **The work we submit as evidence will be the best work for that student.** It is with this in mind, that students should see the next few weeks as an opportunity to show us what they can achieve. There is no limit on the achievements of students provided they have evidence that they are working at those grades. The best thing that students can do is to attend classes, learn, act on feedback from their teachers, revise and read around the subject. Their grade will be based on their performance and so their outcomes are ultimately in their hands.

We will provide a FAQ sheet on the website as you may well have more questions about the process. If you wish to email me please do so at aelstone@carshaltongirls.org.uk or you can also contact Mrs Durrett (Assistant Head) or Mr Stockwell (Head of Year 11) and Mrs B. Norman (Assistant Head) or Miss Bevan (Head of Year 13) for Sixth form matters for further clarification.

