



22nd January 2020 / 22ain Ionowar 2020

Dear Learner,

We hope by now you have had an opportunity to read the letter circulated by Qualifications Wales (QW) earlier this week relating to its updated assessment arrangements for GCSE, AS and A level grades this summer.

Here at Milford Haven school, just like in every other secondary school and college across Wales, we are beginning to modify our planning in order to be ready to align with the detail that will emerge from the Welsh examinations body (WJEC) over the coming weeks. However at this early stage following the announcement we have to inform you that we know little more than was covered in the QW letter, namely:

- there will be NO external assessments or examinations for students this summer
- non-examination assessments (NEA) which are integral aspects of many courses will no longer have marks submitted to WJEC. However they may be used by teachers to support their assessment of a pupil's grade.
- subject teachers will be responsible for determining pupil outcomes. These will be based on a range of evidence which will include assessment materials to be provided by the WJEC later this term

In order to ensure fairness and consistency across schools, the WJEC have been tasked with developing subject assessment frameworks for teachers to use when arriving at grades. These have yet to be published, but it has been made clear that it means an individual subject performance grade e.g. A1 which was shared with you in the Autumn term may differ due to the shift in the nature of the assessment process. For this reason we suggest that pupils use their individual subject performance grades, which were shared in the autumn term, when making applications to college or sixth forms. If we receive any grade requests for individuals please be assured that it is these individual subject performance grades we will provide.

The QW letter also states that schools will not be required to submit grades to WJEC until the summer term. We welcome this statement as it allows us time to ensure that subject teachers have time to complete the teaching of the content and collate the range of evidence required.

As you will appreciate, until we receive further direction from WJEC with regards to the subject assessment frameworks and a clear timeline of landmarks and deadlines we are limited in the decisions we are able to make at the moment. Following the update it is very important that you



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stay focused and keep working through your studies so that you are ready to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding you have and are developing. Please be assured that your teachers and all staff at Milford haven school will continue to prepare and deliver high quality online learning activities and lessons during this period of lockdown.

Finally, we are sure we will be communicating with you as we get further updates but, until then, if anyone has a concern or worries, please do not hesitate to contact us on the following email addresses: Standards leader for KS4 and KS5 [mgriffiths@milfordhavenschool.co.uk](mailto:mgriffiths@milfordhavenschool.co.uk) or [jletten@milfordhavenschool.co.uk](mailto:jletten@milfordhavenschool.co.uk) .

Yours sincerely,

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