



## Joseph Leckie Academy

15<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians/Carers

### **Year 11 and 13 examinations – Update on Assessments**

Further to my previous letters regarding Year 11 and 13 examinations being cancelled, I wanted to update parents and students on the latest guidance to date and how we will be working with your child to complete their assessments and Centre Assessed Grades. You may well have seen the announcements from the government regarding examination grading. The information that was shared with you previously gave a strong indication of the planned approach so there were no big surprises.

**The Department for Education and Ofqual have now produced their guidance to schools, which can be accessed here:** [Decisions on how GCSE, AS and A level grades will be determined in summer 2021 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk).

### **What does this mean for your child sitting a GCSE, BTEC or GCE qualifications this summer?**

For each formal qualification that students were working towards teachers will need to provide a teacher assessed grade (TAG). The final grade awarded by teachers will be based only on the content that students have been taught by staff from the start of the course to the end of lockdown. As students return this week a very important period of consolidation, revision and assessments will begin which will give students the opportunity to work towards improving overall outcomes.

Staff will use a broad range of evidence to inform these TAG's which will include assessment evidence already gathered since students began the course; a wide range of assessments, NEA coursework, internal examinations, and external exams that have already been sat for vocational subjects, where applicable. These will be used alongside the results of various assessments set over the following few weeks to support the final outcome decisions. This means that the following weeks are essential for students if they wish to secure or improve their outcomes.

A number of the assessments students will undergo over the next few weeks will be carried out under examination conditions which means that students should not have access to mobile phones and other electronic equipment or notes of any kind. If a student breaks these regulations, then these assessments will not be included in evidence for their TAG.

Students will also have the opportunity to continue to work on coursework and non- examination assessments (NEA) over the coming weeks, but must ensure they meet any deadlines set by teachers. Unfortunately, these will be tight deadlines as time must be factored in for work to be graded, moderated and marks to be submitted. It is essential that any work set is completed within these deadlines if it is to be included within the evidence used.

We can assure you that we will put in rigorous and robust procedures in place and that we have highly experienced staff to ensure grades awarded will be fair, impartial and eliminate any bias from the process. Moderation procedures will be in place to standardise work and grades awarded.

## Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 4PG  
Acting Principal: Rachel Cook  
Tel: 01922 721 071 Fax: 01922 641 497  
email: [postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk](mailto:postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk)  
website: [www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk](http://www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk)

Students will not be told their TAG that are submitted to the examination boards and they will receive their grades on results days:

This year's results days are on:

- **A Level and Level 3 BTEC's - 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021**
- **GCSE and Level 2 BTEC's - 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

There will be an appeals process and we will launch this process later in the Summer term.

We will continue to keep you informed as and when we are given further guidance from the examination boards and we will ensure that students and parents are informed of deadlines.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us or Mrs Devey, Head of Year 11 or Mrs Field Head of Sixth Form for more information and support.

May I thank everyone for your on-going understanding and support during these difficult times and for your support and encouragement in ensuring your child completes their work and any assessments over the coming weeks to ensure they maximise their opportunities.



Rachel Cook

Acting Principal