



TO CARE  
TO LEARN  
TO ACHIEVE

**BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL**  
A Specialist Business and Enterprise College  
with Applied Learning  
Headteacher: Mrs H J Phillips

21st January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Year 11 – Term 2 Screening 2021**

This letter and your son/daughter's screening report has been posted home today, by first class post. A copy of the report has also been uploaded to Frog.

The report you will receive includes the **mock exam grade** in each subject. It also includes the latest **attitude to learning grades**. Please discuss this screening report with your child, and encourage him or her to make any necessary improvements. There will be an opportunity to discuss with subject teachers at the **Parents' Evening** (see below).

As you will know, the government has announced that the **exams will not go ahead as planned in the summer**. The government has given an assurance that **students will still be awarded grades and qualifications**, although the details of how this will work have not yet been decided.

We have **not** included **projected grades** in this screening report. It would be unfair to ask teachers to predict what grades students are likely to achieve, before they know how these grades will be awarded. It is also worth noting that, when the exams were cancelled in 2020, schools were not allowed to share the grades submitted to exam boards with students or parents before Results Day. It is possible that this may also be the case in 2021. At the moment the focus should be on helping students to **improve on previous performance** and to **close any gaps in knowledge**, so that there is as much evidence as possible to support the award of good grades at the end of Year 11.

The **Department for Education** is currently carrying out a **consultation** exercise, to gather views on how grades should be awarded this summer. Below is a link to the DFE proposal;

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/953000/6743-1\\_GCSE\\_AS\\_and\\_A\\_level\\_grades\\_should\\_be\\_awarded\\_in\\_summer\\_2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/953000/6743-1_GCSE_AS_and_A_level_grades_should_be_awarded_in_summer_2021.pdf)

Students and/or parents can participate in this consultation. Below is a link to the survey if you wish to share your views;

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/8BYI4T/>

Following this consultation, the DFE will publish the final arrangements for awarding grades. As soon as we receive this information, we will share it with you. It is expected that grades will be awarded based on evidence of student attainment submitted by the school. Evidence is likely to include **marks in internal exams and assessments**, and the standard of **classwork**,

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**homework and coursework** (where applicable). This will include **work already completed** and **work completed during the remainder of the course**. **Students must continue to work and learn during the remainder of Year 11**. Hopefully it soon becomes safe enough to resume face to face learning in school. In the meantime, students must engage with the 'zoom' lessons and remote learning being provided by teachers. **If students engage with learning and work hard, it will help to boost the grades they achieve**. If students do not engage properly, it will reduce their chances of achieving good grades. Most students are engaging well with remote learning. I would like to thank those students and also the many parents/guardians for your help in supporting home learning, often in challenging circumstances.

**Year 11 Parents Evening: Thursday 28th January (3.30-6.30pm)**

Parents' Evening will go ahead on the scheduled date of 28th January. Due to the current restrictions, this cannot be a face to face event. However, it is important that we provide this opportunity for parents to speak to teachers. Consequently, this will be a 'virtual' event, with communication via video calls through 'School Cloud'. Parents will be able to book appointments with subject teachers online. To ensure that as many parents as possible have an opportunity to speak to teachers, each appointment will last no longer than 6 minutes. Instructions on how to book appointments and join video calls will be sent to parents separately. However, please be assured that it is straightforward to use.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P. Shelton  
Deputy Headteacher

