

Hayle Academy

29 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 students,

Following on from my letter of last Friday, today is the final opportunity for any contributions to the OFQUAL consultation on the awarding of GCSE grades to Year 11 students in the absence of examinations. While we welcome the move towards teacher assessed grades described in the proposal, we also have some concerns about how some aspects of it will provide fair and equitable access to grades for all students. In particular, where the proposals talk about exam boards setting papers for schools to deliver to students, we are concerned that this may amount to the setting of GCSE exams by stealth. By expecting schools to mark, moderate and submit the grades, as well as handling appeals from students, there is a risk that the awarding of grades may not be fair and consistent between schools. There is a risk of differing levels of support being offered in different schools, leading to increased stress for students and alongside this, a very significant workload previously handled by exam boards may be placed on school staff. These proposals are currently at the consultation stage. As a school we have given our views and should parents and carers also wish to express their opinion, the DFE consultation document and survey can be reached via the link below.

https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021?utm_source=18%20January%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

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

Kind regards
Simon Horner
Head of School

3 Highlanes, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4DN
enquiries@hayleacademy.net
www.hayleacademy.net 01736 753009
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Jan Woodhouse
Head of school: Mr Simon Horner



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