



# Beal High School

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Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

## RE: Exams guidance for Year 11 and Year 13 students

It has been confirmed by the government that schools across the UK will be closed until further notice, and this summer's exams won't go ahead.

Exam regulators will be working with schools, regulators and government to make sure young people who were due to take exams this summer still achieve the qualifications they need to progress to the next stage of their lives and that all the hard work students and teachers have already put in is properly rewarded.

The exam boards have confirmed the following main points:

- Regulators will develop and set out a process that will provide a calculated grade to each student which reflects their performance as fairly as possible, and will work with exam boards to ensure this is consistently applied for all students.
- Exam boards will be asking teachers, who know their students well, to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead.
- To produce this, teachers will be asked to take into account a range of evidence and data including performance on mock exams and non-exam assessment. Clear guidance on how to do this fairly and robustly will be provided to schools and colleges soon.
- Exam boards will then combine this information with other relevant data, including prior attainment, and use this information to produce a calculated grade for each student, which will be a best assessment of the work they have put in.
- Regulators and exam boards will be discussing with teachers' representatives before finalising the approach, to ensure that it's as fair as possible. More information will be provided as soon as possible.
- The aim is to provide these calculated grades to students before the end of July.
- In terms of a permanent record, the grades will be indistinguishable from those provided in other years.
- They will also aim to ensure that the distribution of grades follows a similar pattern to that in other years, so that this year's students aren't disadvantaged.
- Students will be able to appeal their grades if they don't believe the right process has been followed.
- There will also be an option to sit exams early in the next academic year for any students who wish to. Students may also choose to sit exams next summer.



### Beacon Academy Trust

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Please also see further details on arrangement for exams from Gov.uk:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

This is a tough time for Year 11 and Year 13 students, but please do not email individual teachers or departments regarding examination grades. Staff have been instructed not to respond to any requests related to examinations and predicted grades from students or parents.

Thank you for your patience and support during these extraordinary times. We will of course update as Ofqual and the exam boards release more information.

Kindest regards,



Kathryn Burns  
Executive Principal



Yvonne Andress  
Co-Headteacher



Phil Bray  
Co-Headteacher