



34643/NH/RK  
23/04/2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### Centre Assessed Grades and Ranking

As you will be aware from previous correspondence, instead of the intended summer exam series, Ofqual and the DfE have asked us to generate a Centre Assessed Grade and a rank order for all students entered for GCSE and A-level exams this year. As a parent of student/s in Years 11 and/or Year 13, we know that you will understandably be very interested in how Nower Hill intends to generate centre assessed grades and rank orders.

As we have informed you in previous letters, we will be using a wide range of evidence to inform teachers' professional judgement in generating Centre Assessed Grades and to rank the students within those grades. We have had clear guidance from Ofqual as to what sources of evidence we should use. The guidelines from Ofqual are quoted below:

- *Records of each student's performance over the course of study, including for example progress review data, classwork, bookwork, and/or participation in performances in subjects such as music, drama and PE.*
- *Performance on any non-exam assessment (NEA), even if this has not been fully completed. You should not ask students to complete their NEA work and you do not need to submit marks for any completed NEA. But you will need to bear in mind that many students achieve a higher grade on their NEA than in their exams, so you should not base your judgment on NEA alone. You should balance it with your judgement about their likely performance in the written paper(s), where appropriate. In case students decide that they want to enter in a subsequent exam series, you should retain any NEA work completed to date.*
- *For re-sitting students, any information about previous grades achieved or NEA marks that would, under normal circumstances, have been carried forward.*
- *Performance on any class or homework assessments and mock exams taken over the course of study.*
- *Tier of entry in tiered subjects – centre assessment grades must reflect the tier of entry (9 to 3 for higher tier; 5 to 1 for foundation, as well as U).*
- *Previous results at Nower Hill in this subject – these will vary according to a number of factors, including prior attainment of the students, but Ofqual data shows that for most centres any year-on-year variation in results for a given subject is normally quite small.*
- *The performance of this year's students compared to those in previous years.*



# NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

- *Special consideration requests, in the event that a student is unable to take an assessment or suffers a traumatic event that might affect their performance, will not apply this summer. Instead judgements should reflect how the students would have performed under ordinary circumstances. Where illness or other personal circumstances might have affected performance in mock exams, centres should bear that in mind when making their judgements.*

As part of the process we will be discussing each and every child's grade and rank in every subject at least twice before it is submitted to the exam board.

Exam boards will then moderate the Centre Assessed Grades so that grades are broadly in line with what has been achieved in exam centres and nationally in previous years. This final grade will then be awarded to students on the results days in August; 13th for A-levels and the 20th for GCSEs.

As an examination centre we have been instructed that we must not, under any circumstances, share the Centre Assessed Grades nor the rank order of students with students, their parents/carers or any other individuals outside the centre before final results have been issued. May we therefore respectfully request that you do not contact the school asking for this information.

Following the release of results in August, there will be an opportunity to appeal those results. However, for the moment we have no more detail on how this appeals process will work. There will also be an opportunity for students who are unhappy with the grades to sit exams during the Autumn term; again we currently we have no further information on exactly how and when these will take place.

We appreciate this is a very difficult and stressful time for everyone but particularly for your children who are in their examination year. We are working hard to ensure we do all their hard work justice throughout this process.

Yours sincerely

**NEIL HARDY**  
**Deputy Headteacher**  
**Teaching & Learning**