



**Kemnal
Technology
College**

5 January 2021

Dear Y11 Students

You will no doubt be aware that from the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday evening that GCSE exams will not take place this summer in the normal way. The College will in the coming weeks get details of what will replace them, but it seems reasonable to expect students will receive grades based on a similar system to that of last year. This involves teachers assessing performance using class and homework, coursework, mock exam results and other evidence.

I am aware of the shock and disappointment this news will bring, the government had consistently told students, parents and teachers that exams would happen this year. The new virus strain has now made this impossible. I would urge you to consider the three points below, as they should provide some reassurance.

- 1. Your hard work will still be recognised.** None of the effort you have shown so far, and will continue to show in the coming months, will be wasted.
- 2. Your eventual results will be indistinguishable from the real exams.** In the end, it will not matter that your grades came via a system. You will still be able to progress to the next stage in your education. The value of your GCSE grades will not be altered.
- 3. The new system will be fair and balanced.** Grades will be awarded based on objective evidence. If any parent or student were to be disappointed with their eventual grade, we expect there to be a mechanism to appeal and take a follow-up exam in the autumn.

I know it is asking a lot of you all, on top of everything you have been through already, but you must take these points on board and keep going.

Keep working hard, access all your online learning, keep in contact with your teachers, and know that every piece of work you complete will still make a difference.

Yours faithfully

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EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

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