



LEIGHTON PARK
FOUNDED 1890

3rd April 2020

Dear Upper Sixth students

I am sure several of you will have spotted already the Government information published today regarding the awarding of A level examination grades this summer. It includes a letter to students and parents as well as advice to teachers and schools. It can all be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcses-as-and-a-level-awarding-summer-2020?sfns=mo>

In summary, it asks teachers to provide a predicted grade - the most likely grade a student would have achieved if they had sat their exams this summer and completed any non-exam assessment.

They are also asked to submit a rank order of students within each grade. We have a wide range of evidence to base these predictions on, as well as many years of experience of the progress students make throughout an A level course - particularly during the last few weeks. Please do note that your teachers cannot enter into discussion with you about these predictions. The Government advice to teachers specifically states this:

Centres must not, under any circumstances, share the centre assessment grades nor the rank order of students with students, or their parents/carers or any other individuals outside the centre, before final results have been issued. This is to protect the integrity of teachers' judgements, and to avoid teachers, heads of department, senior leaders or Heads of Centre being put under pressure by students and parents, to submit a grade that is not supported by the evidence. Since the final grades for some or all students in a centre could be different from those submitted, it also helps to manage students' expectations.

Some of you are now deciding upon which university offers to accept as firm or insurance - if you would like to discuss this with me, please let me know.

Take care and stay safe

Helen Taylor
Head of Sixth Form