



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

2nd February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

I hope that you are well and that your family has managed to settle into good routines and that you are able to maintain a healthy work-life balance. Our students are doing so well with their virtual lessons, we are continually impressed by their engagement.

I write to you today to give you an update on how we will use assessed pieces of work to enable us to arrive at secure Centre Assessed Grades (CAG's)

We remain convinced that the examination boards will release papers for schools to use in place of the usual GCSE and A Level examinations for 2021. These assessments will provide teachers with robust evidence to assist them in arriving at secure Centre Assessed Grades (CAG) for GCSE and A level students. As previously mentioned, Plymouth High will be using these assessments in the CAG process and we will help our Year 11 and 13 students to be as well prepared for them as possible.

Information about the 2021 GCSE and A level process is still emerging and we are waiting for the DFE and OFQUAL to publish their final plans. However, working in partnership with our colleagues at TSAT, we have decided to ask our teachers to rate the work completed by students on a red, amber, green, (RAG system) to enable us to decide how work produced by students will count towards the CAG grades.

The guide below illustrates our thinking on how pieces of work will fit into the RAG system.

RAG	Meaning of RAG	Examples
R	Work completed at home under no time pressures. Work being completed is based on specification content but might not be based on exam style material.	Worksheet Google quiz or form Homework task Online platform
A	Work completed at home under no time pressure, BUT based on exam style material	Exam questions Whole past papers
A+	Work completed at home, under a strict time, where all questions are of exam style material	Exam questions Past papers End of Year 10 or 12 assessments that were completed last summer NEA work completed at home.
G	Exams or exam style questions completed under exam conditions in school	Mocks in year 11, work completed in school after lockdown under test conditions. NEA work completed in lessons

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Work that is completed which falls under the 'Amber +' or 'Green' category will support teachers' decisions when allocating CAG's for students.

The work completed at home that falls under the Red and Amber categories, although relevant to the teacher in terms of knowing how best to extend and support a student, will not have such a heavy weighting on a CAG as 'Green or Amber +' pieces of work.

Not all work completed will be given a score or grade. In class a lesson will often be discussion based or practising a key skill and these pieces of work are not assessed by the teacher formally. Other work completed in lesson will be assessed by teachers and scores/grades recorded in their evidence base.

Teachers will inform students if a piece of work they are to complete is an 'Amber +' or 'Green' piece.

We encourage all students to continue to work hard and attend all the virtual lessons. They should also think about what extra study may be necessary between now and the summer to achieve the grades they are hoping for, and should reflect on the targets set by teachers in the reports.

Yours sincerely



Miss Donna Roughton
Assistant Headteacher

