



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

14th April 2020

Dear Year 11 and 13 Students and Parents,

Examinations 2020

In this letter I set out the latest position regarding examination results for 2020 and the next steps.

The Department for Education have confirmed that 2020 GCSE and A level examinations will not be reinstated in the summer of this year, even if the current lockdown measures are relaxed.

The DfE will soon be contacting all schools to ask for our assessment of the grade we believe each student would have been most likely to have achieved in each of their examinations this summer.

We will be given further detailed guidance on this and have been assured by Government that examination boards and Ofqual will put measures in place to ensure fairness. At Plymouth High we anticipated this would happen and began planning for it before the Easter break.

We have also been instructed to not share our assessment of likely outcome grades with students or parents. We have been informed by the DfE that students should find out their grades before the end of July 2020, which is earlier than would otherwise have been the case. When we know the exact date for results publication, we will contact you with details of the next steps.

The DfE have assured us that there will be an appeal process available for students if they feel that an awarded grade is unfair. There will also be the opportunity for students to sit examinations in the Autumn term or the summer of 2021 if they wish, although this will be entirely optional.

Sixth Form providers (including Plymouth High) and Universities will treat the GCSE and A level grades awarded in 2020 in the same way as they would have in previous years.

As I said in my letter to you before the Easter break, I recommend that Year 11 and Year 13 students keep their study going in those subjects that they are considering for the next phase of their learning. Students should also keep in mind that should they choose to take the optional examinations; any work completed now will make a difference later.

You may wish to read [here](#) the details of how grades will be collected and standardised, although Plymouth High will take care of everything for you regarding 2020 grades.

I know this is a difficult time for year 11 and 13 students but wish you a productive and happy summer term. Your teachers and the rest of Plymouth High are here for you and we will support you through these difficult times.

Very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Underdown', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.