



NEWBRIDGE
SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER
Mr. A. Thompson, B.A. (Hons) NPQH

BRIDGE STREET
NEWBRIDGE
NEWPORT NP11 5FR

TELEPHONE
(01495) 243243
(01495) 248808
(01495) 248921

PUPIL ABSENCE LINE
(01495) 241891

FACSIMILE
(01495) 248128

E-MAIL
newca@caerphilly.gov.uk

22nd January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 11 Qualifications Update

As you will be aware, the Minister for Education, Kirsty Williams, this week announced changes to the arrangements for awarding grades for GCSE, AS and A Level in summer 2021. Qualifications Wales has also written to learners to explain the changes and a copy of this letter is attached here.

Pupils undertaking GCSEs (as well as AS and A levels) approved by Qualifications Wales will now have their qualifications awarded through a Centre-Determined Grade model. This means that grades will be determined by their school, based on an assessment of the learner's work. The detail about exactly what these assessments will be based on in each subject is yet to be decided, as is the timeframe for when grades will need to be submitted. However, what is clear is that there will be some flexibility built into the system to ensure that learners can be assessed on the work they have covered.

This is obviously a time of great anxiety for many pupils, families and indeed the teaching staff. Please rest assured that we will be ensuring a fair system of assessment within the guidance given to us by WJEC and Welsh Government, and we will be supporting all our pupils to continue to develop their skills and understanding to attain the highest possible outcomes they can.

At this stage we are not able to give any further detail, but as soon as we know more, I will let you know. I would simply ask that all Year 11 pupils continue to engage fully with all their remote learning provision to ensure they are in the strongest possible position moving forwards. I would also ask all parents (and pupils) not to contact teachers directly about grades but to await further information from the school.

This announcement does not affect BTEC awards; in BTEC subjects all pupils should continue to work towards their assessments as set by teaching staff through Google Classroom.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. A. Thompson
Headteacher