



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

Dayspring Trust



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DAI/ACI

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to thank everyone for their very prompt action in returning consent for pupil coronavirus testing. The deadline is not until tomorrow morning, so there is still time left if you have not yet responded and you wish your child to be included.

Further details outlining the process of testing and systems of control, will be sent out tomorrow. Appointment times for the first round of testing for Y11, Y10 and Y9 will hopefully be sent out by close of play tomorrow, with those for other year groups to shortly follow.

Y11 GCSE Information

You may have seen in the news that the Head of OFQUAL, Mr Lebus, has confirmed that "GCSEs and A-levels cancelled in England by the pandemic will be replaced by grades decided by teachers". You may have also listened to the Secretary of State for Education, Mr Williamson, in Parliament this afternoon outline the following; Grades for exams should be a reflection of what each pupil has demonstrated they are capable of. The assessment of the grade awarded to a pupil will be underpinned by coursework, tests, and mock exams as well as optional questions provided by individual exam boards.

He went on to outline that guidance on how schools are expected to do this fairly and consistently, will be issued in due course. He indicated that there will also be a "rigorous quality assurance process, which will be quality assured by Exam Boards", and will also be issued in due course. That there would be a full and fair appeals system to enable pupils to appeal their grade should they think that their grade is wrong.

I would like to share that at this point in time, schools have not received any of the detail surrounding these statements. Once we have received this detail, we will be able to share with you how it will work for our school community, in our context.

We want every one of our pupils to receive grades that are a fair reflection of their progress and achievements. My advice, once again, to all Y11 pupils is to continue to work as hard as they can, go that extra mile to show us what they are capable of. After all, there is still time to improve grades through hard work and determination.

Regards

David Airey

Mr. D. Airey

Headteacher

