

Dear All,

## Arrangements for your Year 11 & Year 13 Examinations Summer 2023

As you may be aware, the government have made some announcements about year 11 and 13 examinations for the year ahead, which are different to recent years where significant changes were made to help students with the disruption they faced during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Last summer, examinations took place but students were given information about the topics being covered in advance and grading was more generous. It is the government's intention that the examinations will return to 'normal' this summer with no such information being given in advance and grading returning to roughly that seen in 2019.

In terms of topics, students will be expected to revise the full content of their qualifications and can be asked questions on any aspect. Teachers will guide and support students on how best to be ready for such examinations. In terms of grading, the proportions of each grade will be roughly the same as in 2019, so less generous than 2020-2022. The grading system is allowed to be more generous with grade boundaries in the event that all students do less well in their assessments than expected, for example if the impact of the Covid-19 disruption has been greater than expected.

In the very unlikely event of the significant disruption to education seen during the Covid-19 pandemic, schools would again be asked to provide estimated grades using information they have collected during assessments already sat. Should this happen, we will write to you again with full details of the process the government ask us to follow.

In contrast to 2019,

- it has been confirmed that in some Maths & Science examinations, formulae sheets will be provided so that students do not need to memorise these in advance. This includes for GCSE Maths & Sciences and teachers will give confirmation to all relevant students shortly. We will also ensure that Mock Exams use the correct arrangements allowing students to practice in conditions as close to real life as possible.

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- The exam period has also been permanently lengthed so that, in general, students have more time between exams which should help support their well being at this no doubt pressurised time. The main Summer exam season will run from 15<sup>th</sup> May to 23<sup>rd</sup> June but there will be other crucial external assessments such as practical exams for subjects including PE, Art, Drama, Music etc. and foreign language oral assessments which take place before the main exam period.

The government has also confirmed when Results Days will take place next year. **Year 13** results will be released to students on **17<sup>th</sup> August** and **Year 11** on **24<sup>th</sup> August**.

We ask that you work with your teachers who are committed to supporting you to ensure you receive the grades you are capable of. It is essential that you have the best attendance you can to your academy across the year, and are focused and working at your best in all your lessons to prepare for the Summer examinations.

Should you have any questions or queries that you would like answered now please do get in touch with your academy who will give you the best and most up to date information that we have.

Have a great year and we will give you every support to have a successful year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

**John Murphy**

**Chief Executive Officer – Oasis Community Learning**

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