

REF: NT6/Year 11

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all well in these unusual and uncertain times.

The sudden end to the school year is not the way any of us wanted Year 11 to finish. Questions were immediately raised about how grades would be awarded given the lack of exams. Ofqual, the group who oversee the exams process on behalf of the government, who recently published the way GCSE exam grades will be decided.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877842/Summer\\_2020\\_grades\\_for\\_GCSE\\_AS\\_A\\_level\\_EPQ\\_AEA\\_in\\_maths\\_-\\_guidance\\_for\\_teachers\\_students\\_parents.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877842/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_EPQ_AEA_in_maths_-_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents.pdf)

### **How subject grades will be awarded**

Schools are asked to use their professional experience to make a fair and objective judgement of the grade they believe a student would have achieved had they sat their exams this year.

Schools must take into account the full range of available evidence when they grade students, including:

- Non-exam assessment (including coursework that was completed before school closures).
- End of unit test scores.
- The results of any homework assignments and quality of class work completed over the course.
- PPE mock exams.
- Any other records of student performance over the course of study.

### **A word about NEA/Coursework**

- We can confirm there will be no need for you to continue with any NEAs / coursework.
- What you have contributed so far will be used by your teachers as part of their assessment of your ability.
- Whilst the NEAs won't need to be formally submitted to the exam boards, we do need to use them and keep them safe for moderation purposes.

Tretherras teachers already use internal data to give regular 'Most Likely Grades' (or MLG's). These are included in the reports you get from us throughout the year. We are very accurate with our final predictions each year, and I want to reassure you that the grades we produce will be scrutinised before they are signed off by the Headteacher.

Our grades will then be sent to the exam boards for further analysis to ensure that our grades are realistic and fair. They will standardise our grades by testing them against:

- Expected national outcomes for this year's students.
- The prior attainment of students at each school (as a year group).
- Tretherras' GCSE results in recent years.

### About these results

- They will be treated in the same way as any results in any other year.
- They will allow the same routes into higher level study, apprenticeships or employment as other years.
- Students will be able to appeal a result if they feel it is unfair.
- There will be an autumn round of exams for any student wanting to sit the exam.

### Results Day

The exact day the results will be released has not yet been published. As soon as we know the way the results will be released we will contact you with details about how students will receive their grades.

### Sixth Form Entry

Sixth Form entry will take place once results are released. Usually, this is on a formal results day in school, but this may change depending on circumstances. I guarantee that every student will be interviewed by Subject and Sixth Form staff to gain places onto our A Level, Level 3 Vocational and One –Year courses, which is standard practice.

I realise students and parents will be nervous about the judgement of grades this year. We will use our knowledge of each individual and their entire performance over the last 2 years within each subject to make decisions about course entry, alongside the final grades.

**Our Sixth Form is open to any student who achieves the grades required by each subject. Please see our online Prospectus for details of courses, entry requirements and application forms.**

<https://tretherras.net/about-nt6/>

<https://tretherras.net/how-to-apply/>

### Sixth Form Applications

Please remember that we know you really well as a student, your academic strengths and weaknesses and how to support you to succeed post 16. We will make sure that you get on the courses that will suit you best.

**Our Sixth Form is one of the most successful in Cornwall, with more than 50% of students gaining A\*-B grades and 84% achieving Distinction\*-Distinction grades in Vocational courses for the last 3 years. Our students go on to study at the best universities in the UK.**

- All existing applicants will gain a place in the Sixth Form as long as they meet the GCSE grade requirements.
- We will interview all students on results day to ensure they have the best guidance to act on.
- Students can apply to the Sixth Form at any time, including on results day.

**Each subject has set a variety of research, reading and study tasks to help support students transition to higher level study. These can be found in Year 11 Class Charts subjects, under the Homework tab. I fully recommend students engage in these to keep honing skills, knowledge and an interest in their chosen subjects.**

You can contact the Sixth Form Team with any questions about courses or entry into the Sixth Form using the following email address: [JAS@tretherras.net](mailto:JAS@tretherras.net)

I hope you find this information useful.

Yours sincerely

*J. Hammersley*

**MR J HAMMERSLEY**

**Assistant Headteacher, 14-19 Learning.**