

REF: NT6/Year 13

Tuesday 14th 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 13 to finish their time at Tretherras. Questions were immediately raised about how grades would be awarded and how these may affect university places. Ofqual, the group who oversee the exams process on behalf of the government, published the way A Level grades will be decided last Thursday. I hope the overview below is useful and answers some questions you may have.

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).
- AS grades.
- 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 the grades we produce will be internally 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 Year 13 students at Tretherras (as a year group).
- Tretherras' A Level 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. We are also unsure of the way the results will be released but will contact you as soon as we have guidance from the government. Please be reassured that the Sixth Form team will be available to provide any support that is required when the results are released.

UCAS

- Allocation of places remains the same with grades being forwarded by UCAS to universities to confirm offers.
- Clearing will run as normal for any student not gaining the required grades.
- There are regular updates on UCAS Track, please keep looking at this site.
- **The deadline for applicants to reply if they received decisions from all their choices is now on the 19th May 2020.**
- **The deadline for universities and colleges to make decisions and reply to applications is now on the 20th May 2020.**
- **IF YOU HAVE NOT YET MADE YOUR FIRM AND INSURANCE OFFERS PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

Sixth Form Support

The Sixth Form team will be here to answer any questions you may have about any of the information in this letter. Please email us on following email address: JAS@tretherras.net . Students can also contact the team on the Sixth Form phone, they have this number.

I hope you find this information useful.

Yours sincerely

J Hammersley

MR J HAMMERSLEY
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