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Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Contingency plans for exams

As you will be aware following the disruption caused by the pandemic the government is clear that students entering GCSEs, AS or A levels in 2022 should expect to take exams in the summer and complete any non-exam assessments in the usual way throughout the year.

Although the government is firmly committed to exams going ahead in summer 2022, they have asked schools to have contingency plans in place for the unlikely event that exams have to be cancelled again because of the pandemic. If this is the case in summer 2022, students' grades would instead be determined by their teachers, using a Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) approach similar to that used in summer 2021. TAGs are based on teachers' assessment of their students' work.

We have been advised that Students taking GCSEs, AS and A levels should be assessed under exam-like conditions wherever possible and as such we will be running TAG assessments in the upcoming mock exams that will take place in December. Student performance in these TAG assessments, alongside assessments taken later in the academic year, may be used to determine students' grades in the event that exams have to be cancelled again because of the pandemic. To give students the best opportunity to succeed it is essential that all students attend and complete all TAG assessments to the best of their ability as if they were real examinations.

Teachers will be working with student's to support their preparation for these TAG assessments and students' will be assessed on a wide range of taught content. Teachers will also inform students of the subject content that will be covered by the assessment to aid their preparation in lessons.

As the TAG assessments may be used to generate a student's grade any students that attempts to gain an unfair advantage during the centre's delivery of assessments, (for example, being in possession of/using a mobile phone, submitting fabricated evidence or plagiarised work) would constitute malpractice and centres must report these to the appropriate awarding organisations.

Students' will be provided with feedback including marks and comments following the completion of the TAG assessments. It should be noted that any grade used to indicate the level at which the student has performed is not a TAG. Also, it will not be possible for teachers to determine a TAG unless and until we receive specific guidance if exams are cancelled. Attached you will see a list of all upcoming mock exams with TAG assessments indicated to allow you to support your child in preparing for these assessments and we thank you for your support with this.

Yours sincerely

Mr Darren Gelder

Principal - For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust