



The Sutton Academy

Together Students Achieve

Principal: Mr Paul Willerton

Dear Parent/Carer

21 January 2021

Examinations 2021

You will be aware that the consultation from Ofqual on how grades will be awarded for Year 11 and Year 13 was released on Friday 15 January. This will close at 11:45pm on Friday 29 January. At this point, it is just a consultation and the information is still a little vague. Our interpretation is that teachers will be entering their assessment of the standard to which the student is performing in May/June. It also suggests students will then get their results earlier than normal, potentially the middle of July, to ensure there are time for appeals before embarking on the next stage of their education.

I understand the uncertainty will be causing anxiety. All we can ask from the students is that they continue with their learning so the academy can input the grade they deserve. The consultation is very clear that students need to continue engaging with the online learning so that teachers have the evidence needed for the assessed grades. The consultation also suggests that schools may be asked to set examinations in May/June on the work they have covered. We would see this as an opportunity for students to show what they can do.

The consultation document for GCSE and A-Level can be read by following this [LINK](#). The consultation for vocational subjects that are not GCSE or A-Levels, such as BTECs, can be read by following this [LINK](#). The academy is preparing a response to the consultation but I would encourage parents/carers and students to also contribute to the formal consultation so that a broad spectrum of opinions are considered.

As soon as I hear the outcome of the consultation, I will write to you with the full details.

Online Learning

As previously explained, students have access to a mixture of pre-recorded and live lessons. Recently the Education Endowment Fund and Ofsted released research which support this approach.

Pre-recorded lessons also have live teacher input. The student's teacher is available on Zoom at the time of the lesson to teach the student or give support if they need it throughout that lesson. Attendance to these lessons is compulsory so please contact us if there are genuine reasons why your child cannot attend. We are introducing a method of registering the students each week and we will be able to contact parents/carers if a student does not attend.

We are conscious that we have emailed home lots of information over the past few weeks, and so we now have created a dedicated Home Learning section on the main menu of our academy website. In this section, parents and carers can find key information to help support students when completing their home learning. This includes our expectations, times of the academy day, various technical guidance along with help and support guides. Please click [HERE](#) to access our new Home Learning section.

As always, if there are any queries then please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Willerton
Principal

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