



# CAISTOR YARBOROUGH ACADEMY

Our Ref: JBig/KWoo/S:Y11/2020-21

03 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **YEAR 11 EXAMS - UPDATE**

Following the Government announcement on 24<sup>th</sup> February, I wanted to write to update you with information about what will be happening for Year 11 over the next few months.

As you are aware, your sons/daughters will NOT be sitting their GCSE exams this summer. The Government have now announced that the grades that your sons/daughters will receive will be Centre Assessed Grades (CAGS), based on an assessment set by their teachers. Teachers will assess the standard at which students are performing based only on what they have been taught. Teachers' judgements will be based on a range of evidence relating to the subject content that the teachers have delivered, either in the classroom or via remote learning. Teachers will be able to use evidence about performance gathered throughout the course to inform their judgement. This might include work that has already been completed, mock exam results, homework, or in-class tests. Teachers may also use questions from exam boards, largely based on past papers, to conduct extra assessments to help assess students. Exam boards will publish further guidance in March so that schools have a clear understanding of how to make fair and consistent judgements. They will publish requirements for schools' quality assurance processes and will review each school's processes before they are able to submit grades.

Schools can decide the exact timing for when they undertake assessments and complete their internal quality assurance and checks, provided that grades are submitted to the exam boards by 18<sup>th</sup> June. As an Academy, we will work carefully to the guidelines provided by the exam boards. There will be a standardisation process within departments and a moderation process across the Academy. We will ensure that we have a standard approach across all subject areas and that all evidence provided to the boards will have been checked, cross-checked and agreed by both the Heads of Faculty and senior staff. Each student will be discussed and their Centre Assessment Grade agreed, so that no single member of staff will be responsible for deciding a student's grade. The process will be rigorous, objective and fair.

The arrangements for this year are designed to enable teaching, learning and assessment to continue for as long as possible, so that teachers' judgement of work can take place as late in the academic year as is practical. It is therefore important that students remain engaged in their learning and study for as long as possible so that their hard work can be considered in their grade. Poor work from earlier in the course will not disadvantage students if they can demonstrate, through the work done over the next 7 - 8 weeks, that they can work at a higher level.

*/Continued*

## EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Headteacher: Mr M Midgley  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs J Biglands  
Caistor Yarborough Academy,  
Grimsby Road, Caistor, Market Rasen,  
Lincolnshire, LN7 6QZ

Telephone: 01472 851383  
Email: [enquiries@cyac.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cyac.org.uk)  
Web: [www.caistoryarboroughacademy.org.uk](http://www.caistoryarboroughacademy.org.uk)

Facebook: [@CaistorYarboroughAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/CaistorYarboroughAcademy)  
Twitter: [@CYATweeter](https://twitter.com/CYATweeter)  
Instagram [yarboroughcaistor](https://www.instagram.com/yarboroughcaistor)

We would ask that you do not contact individual members of staff to request that we submit grades for your child that are not supported by the evidence we have collected. The school must be confident that any work used as evidence to support a grade is the student's own and that the student has not been given inappropriate levels of support to complete it, either in school, at home or with an external tutor. Exam boards will investigate instances where it appears that evidence is not authentic.

We envisage that the Year 11 students will be able to stop attending the Academy no later than when we break up for the May Half Term (Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May), but this will be confirmed nearer the time based on Government guidelines.

The GCSE results day will be Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and more details will be forwarded about this too, nearer the time. Following the release of results, there will be a window for students who believe their grade is wrong, to raise an appeal.

We appreciate your support in allowing us time to develop our systems to implement these new processes and your trust that we will do what is right for your child.

We have provided you with all of the information we currently have available to us at this time. We will do all that we can to ensure our processes are in line with the Government's intention to be fair to students and to make sure that they are not disadvantaged in their progression to the next stage of their education.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully



**Mrs Jo Biglands**  
**Deputy Headteacher**