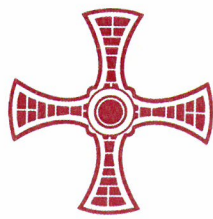




St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College



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Head Teacher: Mr. D. Juric
Chair of Governors: Mr. G. Moorhouse

26th February 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers and Students of Year 11 and Year 13

I am writing to you with some initial information regarding the recent government announcement on the awarding of qualifications this summer. At present, we only have an initial piece of fairly broad guidance, and have been told to expect more detailed information next month. Therefore, until we have sight of this further guidance, we are not able to give you full details on the process ahead. However, we are aware that the topic will be at the forefront of your minds, as it is ours, and so we wanted at this stage to write to you with the basic outline of what we do know, rather than to say nothing. We cannot give further answers as yet, but once we know more, we shall share it with you.


Schools have been told that they should use a range of evidence to make a judgment of the grade at which students are performing. In order to do so, students should be assessed on what they have been taught, and assessments should also be of sufficient breadth of content.

The exam boards are to publish guidance next month for schools on how to make fair and consistent judgments. They will also provide assessment materials at the end of March, which schools may use to help them arrive at judgments. A range of evidence can be used, but the recommendation is to focus on more substantial pieces of work, pieces structured around exam board materials or specifications, tests and exams, where these are available. Coursework may also be used.

Schools will need to follow published quality assurance procedures and there will also be sampling of standards across schools nationally. Grades must be submitted to the exam boards by 18 June. A Level Results Day will be 10 August. GCSE Results Day will be 12 August. Vocational courses will have results published on or slightly before these dates. There will be an appeal process open to students, with priority given to results which would impact on students' further progression.

At present, these are the things which we definitely know. It would be counterproductive to speculate on other matters until the relevant guidance and instructions are published. In the meantime we look forward to welcoming students back into school soon and will of course do all we can to continue to help and support students to achieve the very best they can.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Juric
Head Teacher

