



King  
Ecgbert  
School

Celebrating 50 years of King Ecgbert School  
1969-2019

King Ecgbert School  
Totley Brook Road  
Dore  
Sheffield  
S17 3QU

0114 235 3855

enquiries@ecgbert.sheffield.sch.uk

www.ecgbert.sheffield.sch.uk

**Headteacher:** Mr Paul Haigh  
**Chair of Governors:** Mrs Karen Milbourn

Date: 15 April 2020

Our Ref: PHA/HW

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

### Re: Exam Grade Summer 2020

I am writing to you because Ofqual, the organisation that oversees our examination system has now released guidance about the exams and grades this summer. The links and information are already on our school website.

As you know, students will no longer be sitting their summer exams. Instead, schools are being asked to send the exam boards a **centre assessment grade**, which is our prediction of what grade each student was most likely to have achieved this summer in each one of his/her subjects.

We already have lots of evidence to help us do this as accurately as we can. We will be taking into account all of the data we normally would when predicting a grade: mock exams, coursework, past exams, assessments in class, practical work, and anything else that we can use to help us make the best judgement we can. We will be sending these to the exam boards in the next couple of months.

Please don't ask teachers or pastoral staff about these grades, the guidance from Ofqual is very clear in stating that **we cannot discuss these grades with anyone at all.**

We are a high attaining school with an excellent track record of making progress with our students – the grades we predict for our students this year will be no different and our students will once again do exceptionally well. This will help all of our students in Y11 and Y13 during this process, as we have shown in the past that our students have achieved highly – the exam boards and Ofqual are expecting us to do so again.

Why this will help is because the exam boards will look at our past exam results to see if the grades we are predicting are realistic. If we say our students will do really well, and they have done really well in the past, then we are in a strong position to show the exam boards that we are predicting accurately.

The exam boards will also be looking at our students' past exam results (in GCSE exams for those at post-16 and in KS2 SATs for those in Y11). They will use data like this to help them decide how able a particular year group is. If they know how well a year group has done in the past it gives them a good idea of how well they will probably do in the exams this summer.



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So can we say that the grade we submit will be the one students are eventually awarded? No, we cannot say for certain. But we have the track record of sustained exam success here and teachers have all the information they need already to be able to produce these grades. Students must put their faith in the school and in the work they have done over the past few years, then they must focus on spending their time over the new few months wisely, completing any preparatory work for new courses that may be set and planning for the new year at sixth form, college or university.

It is also important to remember that all students will have the right to sit their exams in the autumn term if any of the results they receive are disappointing. For some of our students, perhaps those who left it too late and were hoping to 'pull it out of the bag' in the summer, it might be wise to continue to focus on examination work and keep minds fresh for the autumn exams. The dates of these exams are not yet clear, but we will communicate them as soon as we know.

These are unprecedented times and this situation is far removed from what our students and the school would have wanted, but rest assured that we are in a strong position as a school to submit a really strong set of grades. We fully expect that our students will once again achieve highly when results are released this summer.

Please stay safe and stay positive.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Haigh".

Mr P Haigh  
Headteacher