

# Carshalton Boys Sports College



6 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may be aware, on 18 March the Secretary of State for Education announced in the House of Commons that this year's GCSE, AS and A level examinations would not take place. On Friday Ofqual (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) published further information (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-as-and-a-level-awarding-summer-2020>) about the process they have established for how final grades will be awarded for these qualifications. I know that this is a matter of concern to you all and so I am writing to explain the steps we will be taking in response.

As has been well publicised, it is clear that schools will play an important role, though to ensure fairness nationally, we will not have the final say in the grades which are awarded. This guidance has been released to us at the same time as it has been released publicly, so I hope you will understand and be reassured by the fact that we will need to take some time to digest it; this will enable us to consider how to approach its implementation in the best interests of all students. In determining our approach, we will work closely with other schools in the local area and have due regard for advice from professional associations. We understand that the outcomes of this process are very important to all our students and we would like to reassure you that we are committed to ensuring that the guidance is applied carefully and fairly. You will understand why individual members of staff will not be able to answer any queries from students or parents about this until we ourselves know the answers; I hope to be in touch again with more details early next term, including more information on how grades in vocational subjects will be awarded.

I have enclosed a letter from Ofqual which explains the process to students, please share this with your son/daughter, and contact me if you have any queries.

The circumstances surrounding the spread of COVID-19 have been extremely stressful for all students at Carshalton Boys, but particularly so for those who were due to sit public examinations. Our pastoral team wants to support students in managing the understandable anxiety that these circumstances will be causing. Please contact the school if you or your child want to discuss any worries further.

I hope that over the Easter holiday you are all able to spend some time together, free from work and or study. We will be in touch with you all again very soon to share next steps.

Wishing you and your families a peaceful and safe Easter

Kind regards

Simon Barber  
Principal

***"Making a Difference"***

**Principal:** Simon Barber

Winchcombe Road | Carshalton | SM5 1RW

**T:** 020 8714 3100 | **F:** 020 8641 8721 | **E:** [contact@carshaltonboys.org](mailto:contact@carshaltonboys.org) | **W:** [www.carshaltonboys.org](http://www.carshaltonboys.org)

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