

31 March 2021

Dear GCSE student,

GCSE English and Maths final assessments

You should by now have completed your GCSE mock exam. This is a vital piece of evidence in helping us assess your progress, so thank you for taking it seriously and doing your best.

We recognise the impact that COVID has had on your learning this year. Try to remember that this is same for students everywhere and it is our intention to support you to achieve your full potential.

It is important that we give you as long as possible to develop your skills and knowledge before we decide on your teacher assessed grade. For this reason, we will continue to teach you the GCSE syllabus in your timetabled classes after Easter.

We will make a final assessment of your skills in a single assessment each for English and maths during the week beginning 17th May.

Arrangements and exact dates will follow in mid-April.

It is essential that you are there. This will be a final chance to raise your grade from your performance in the mock and will be designed to offer you the chance to show improvements in some of the more challenging GCSE skills.

The 4 weeks of teaching after Easter will prepare you for these assessments and we will cover all the skills you need to revise. Do not miss any lessons to ensure you are prepared.

You will get feedback on your mock exams, but we will not be able to tell you your grade, as this is confidential until it is agreed or amended and then published by the awarding body on the 12th of August.

All teacher assessed grades go through a process of moderation. This means that no one teacher decides on your grade and that teachers and managers work together to mark work, measure progress and decide on grades for the whole year group. This year, the awarding bodies will also sample student work to look for mistakes, unfairness or bias.

We hope this reassures you that your grade will be a fair reflection of your skills and that you still have time to make progress and achieve. Please continue to work with your teachers towards this.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Matthews and Emma James

Fiona Matthews, Group Curriculum Director – English

Emma James, Group Curriculum Director – Maths

Registered Address:

Poplar High St, London E14 0AF