



26 April 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well.

As you may be aware, Ofqual and the Department for Education have recently published guidance to schools outlining the requirements for the awarding of GCSE grades this summer. This guidance requires students and staff to compile, review and moderate evidence portfolios for all subjects.

We have been in touch with families in these year groups to share our plans for Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs). I would like to take this opportunity to thank students and families in Year 11 for your communication, feedback and support as we navigate a new and complex process.

I am writing today to inform you that due to the additional guidance we have received from Ofqual and the DfE, teachers require time to put in place quality assurance measures, ensuring the grading process is thorough, fair and reflective. For this reason, we have taken the decision to **add an extraordinary INSET day on Friday 28th May 2021 for Years 7, 8, and 11**. During this day, all staff involved in the grading process will work with colleagues at our partner school, George Abbot, to review and moderate the portfolios of work produced by students in each school. I am hugely grateful for your support with this.

Students in **Years 9 and 10** will be undertaking their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh day walk. This will be staffed by trained Duke of Edinburgh Award trip leaders Mr Williams and Mr Pinder, and be supported by staff not directly involved in the submission of Year 11 grades. I am extremely pleased that we have been able to do this, and allow Year 10 students the chance to catch up on an opportunity missed due to COVID. Further information on this will follow.

As you will know, the outcomes for students at Kings have been improving significantly each year, indeed we are now one of the most academically improved schools in England. We are aware that this improving grade profile means that it is likely that the work of our students will be called for moderation and I am resolute in ensuring we do everything to ensure that our students receive the grades that their effort and abilities deserve.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. McKenzie'.

Mr A. McKenzie
Principal