



Brentwood County High School

Executive Headteacher Mrs. A. Hughes | Headteacher Miss. M. Ryan

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19th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to make you aware that the DFE has published its proposals for grades should be awarded in summer 2021. There is a consultation period of two weeks, from Friday 15th to Friday 29th January, in which all stakeholders are invited to share their opinions.

Should you wish to do this you can by completing the official feedback survey at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/8BYI4T/>.

Parents and students that have an interest in the proposed changes to BTEC qualifications should give their opinions on a different survey at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ACIHL2/>.

The full proposal can be found on the below link

<https://ofqual.blog.gov.uk/2021/01/15/how-2021-could-look-for-students-and-learners-we-want-your-views/>.

A summary of the proposals are:

- A student's grade in each subject will be based on their teachers' assessment of the standard at which the student is performing when the grade is submitted. Therefore it is important that they continue to submit assignment work set on TEAMS.
- A final assessment will be made towards the end of the academic year, at about the time students would have taken their exams.
- To help teachers make objective decisions, exam boards should provide guidance and training and make available a set of papers, which teachers will use with their students as part of their assessment.
- Teachers should draw on a range of broader evidence, of a student's work in making their final assessment.

A Proposed timeline:

- Students would continue with their education during this academic year.
- Students would be assessed by their teachers in a period beginning in May into early June.
- Teachers would submit grades to the exam boards by mid-June.
- External quality assurance by the exam boards would be ongoing throughout June.
- Results would be issued to students once the QA process is complete, most likely in early July.
- Student appeals could be submitted immediately following the issue of results and would first be considered by schools and colleges.



Brentwood County High School is a proud partner in the Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust

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BTECs and Functional Skills Proposals:

- All written exams will be cancelled.
- Alternative arrangements for awarding qualifications.
- Internal assessment should continue remotely.

As you can see the final proposals could differ significantly from the media headlines of “all exams cancelled” and I ask you to discuss this with your child to ensure they realise that they may still be required to sit a final assessment of some description at the end of the academic year. I also stress that these are proposals and subject to change once the consultation period has ended. The proposals also leave many unanswered questions that hopefully will be addressed after the consultation period. I will update you once the DFE have finalised the approach that schools should take this summer.

Yours sincerely

Miss M Ryan
Headteacher



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