

Burnage Lane, Manchester, M19 1ER

☎ 0161 432 1527 📠 0161 442 7158

@ office@burnage.manchester.sch.uk

🌐 www.burnage.manchester.sch.uk

🐦 twitter.com/Burnage_Academy

اگر آپ اس پیغام کو اردو میں ترجمہ کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم ہماری ویب سائٹ ملاحظہ کریں اور "ترجمہ" ٹیب پر کلک کریں
https://burnage.manchester.sch.uk/parents-and-students/dashboard
إذا كنت تريد ترجمة هذه الرسالة إلى العربية يرجى زيارة موقعنا على الانترنت وانقر على علامة التبويب "ترجمة"

https://burnage.manchester.sch.uk/parents-and-students/dashboard

16th March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We were delighted to welcome Y11 back to school this week.

In January, it was announced that exams for GCSE and BTEC subjects were cancelled due to Coronavirus and instead would be replaced by grades provided by the school.

These grades will be judged on work your son has completed over the course of Y10 and Y11 – he will not be judged on parts of the syllabus that have not been covered due to national lockdown and disruption to learning.

How will grades be awarded this summer?

Grades for GCSEs, A levels, and most other qualifications including applied generals will be based on a process involving teacher assessment against national standards, internal quality assurance, and external quality assurance by the exam boards.

The national process defined by the Department for Education and the exams' regulator, Ofqual is as follows:

1. Teachers will **assess students against a national standard**, which will be defined by the exam boards before the Easter break.
2. Departments will submit grades which will be **quality assured by the school / college**. This internal quality assurance process will have to be signed off by the exam board to ensure it is rigorous and in line with national standards.
3. Our school or college results will be **quality assured externally** by the exam boards, which may include random sampling of our school or college's evidence.
4. If the exam boards are confident in our submitted results, **then the exam boards will award students their final grades**.
5. If students do not think their results are accurate, they will have the right to **appeal**.



Do teachers award the grade?

Simply: no. The grade students achieve will start with their teacher's assessment of their performance across a range of evidence. This is against a nationally-defined standard, not the teacher's own opinion. This assessment is then subject to both internal and external quality assurance before the final grade is awarded by the exam body as usual.

What about loss of learning / impact of Covid?

This year, teachers will only assess students on content they have been taught – because of the continued disruption of the pandemic. This means students will not be disadvantaged if they individually, their whole class or whole year group have been unable to complete their full course. However, grades can only be submitted on the basis of the evidence we have of students' performance, even if that evidence covers less of the course than usual. Students who would usually have extra time in the exams will benefit from the same arrangements in teacher assessment.

Will grades be different between different schools and colleges?

No, the standard against which teachers will be assessing students is set nationally by the exam boards. This is the standard that will be used during external quality assurance and appeals to ensure consistency and fairness across the system.

What evidence will be used?

Teachers are able to draw on a range of assessment evidence from across a student's study of the course.

Teachers will take into account the following:

- Mock exams
- In-class assessments
- Classwork
- Homework

Can students and parents discuss their grades with teachers?

Teachers will be able to discuss which evidence they are using to inform their judgement with students, including marked or graded pieces of work.

However, we are not allowed to disclose their final submitted grade we give to the exam board.

Students should not attempt to second-guess the grade submitted, as teachers will be using a range of evidence to inform their final judgement. Students must not pressure teachers to reveal the grades they are submitting, or to increase the grades, as doing so may be considered exam malpractice.

Parents cannot discuss grades with teachers.



What should students do to improve their grades?

The best thing students can do is to continue to attend classes, learn, act on feedback from their teachers, revise, and read around their subject. Their grade will be based on their performance, and so their outcomes are ultimately in their hands.

Mock exams

We will be having mock exams in the week before and the week after Easter.

These exams will be one hour in length and will be taken in the classroom.

The timetables are as follows:

W/c 29th March

	Monday 29.3.21	Tuesday 30.3.21	Wednesday 31.3.21	Thursday 1.4.21
Period 1	English Language 1	English Literature 1		
2				
3	Maths 1			Science 1
4				
5	Option X 1	Option Z 1	Option Y1	

W/c 19th April

	Monday 19.4.21	Tuesday 20.4.21	Wednesday 21.4.21	Thursday 22.4.21
Period 1	English Language 2	English Literature 2		
2				
3	Maths 2			Science 2
4				
5	Option X 2	Option Z 2	Option Y2	

If you have any queries about this process, please contact our Curriculum Deputy Headteacher, Ms. Carter: h.carter@burnage.manchester.sch.uk

Best wishes,



Karl Harrison
Headteacher



'Be the best you can be'

