

# ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

*incorporating*

## WEST CUMBRIA CATHOLIC SIXTH FORM CENTRE

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
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Headteacher:  
EMMA JACKSON

EJ/AIH  
26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We are writing to give some further information regarding the forthcoming mock exams and in-class assessments and to clarify the situation regarding grades and feedback during next half term.

It is important to understand that these exams and assessments will only form part of the evidence for the awarding of the final grades. The mocks are taken over a two week period whereas normal exams are taken over a six to eight week period. As a result, the mock papers are adapted to allow us to fit them all in and will be marked in recognition of this difference in approach. Following on from these mock exams, there will be further in-class assessments in the weeks before the half term break at the end of May. These results will be used alongside other assessment, classwork and homework that students have completed throughout their courses.

Whilst we will be able to give some feedback to students following the mock exams, highlighting potential strengths and weaknesses, which will aid them in any further in-class assessments, due to exam board advice, we are not allowed to share the grades from these exams or the in-class assessments. This is to protect the integrity of the final awarding of grades and to allow for careful moderation of the assessments and grades awarded.

Grades submitted to the exam board are then subject to an external moderation process during which the school may be required to produce the evidence base for a child to justify their grade. Grades are subject to change during this moderation process, and as a result must remain confidential until results day. In many ways, this is the same situation that would have occurred if the normal examination arrangements had happened this year.

Exam boards have made it very clear that undue pressure should not be put on teachers to disclose grades. They have stated that if teachers do disclose grades prior to results day, this will be deemed malpractice. Whilst we know that you and your children will be keen to receive as much information as possible about how well they have done, we hope that you will understand why we are unable to share grades at this stage.

Yours faithfully

Emma Jackson  
Head Teacher

