

Friday 04 December 2020

Dear parents / carers, students and staff,

I am writing to confirm the changes announced on Thursday 03 December regarding changes to the examination system.

On Thursday we all woke to the news of the Government's plans for summer examinations 2021. These details will be shared with Year 11 in all three Trust schools and Year 13 at Bourne Academy, via planned assemblies to share what is known about the changes and how we will support our learners so that they remain at the front of the race for success this year.

By now you might have already seen the government's announcement about the package of measures to address the loss of learning and teaching this year, and the contingency plans for summer 2021 exams.

I wanted to share these new measures with you today, which you can also access in the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-measures-to-support-students-ahead-of-next-summ-exams?_cldee=ZW5xdWlyYWVzQGdsZWVklmXpbmNzLnNjaC51aw%3d%3d&recipientid=contact-d5571c5d08b1e4118e08d89d67633d90-edf7146631834d1385e1cd828a44a62a&esid=daa77817-5035-eb11-a813-000d3a49daf7

In brief these new measures include:

A LEVEL / GCSE:

- more generous grading than usual, in line with 2020;
- students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE and A-levels, to help them focus their revision;
- exam aids – like formula sheets – provided in some exams to give students more confidence and reduce the amount of information they need to memorise;
- contingency exams – held shortly after the main exam series – so students can sit a paper if they miss all their assessments in a subject because of illness or self-isolation.

The new measures complement the existing changes for next summer which include:

- reduced content in many subjects;
- a delay to the start of exams and changes to the timetable.

BTEC:

All we know at this moment is that there will also be adaptations to vocational and technical qualifications to make sure there's parity with general qualifications.

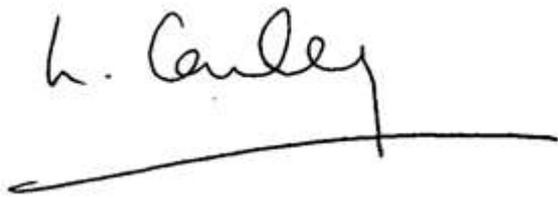
Other Key Information:

The Government has also announced that test and exam results won't be included in performance tables for schools this year. The performance tables will be replaced by attendance information, student destinations and the subjects taken at key stage 4 and 5.

Like myself, I am sure that you will want to know more of the specific details relating to the measures announced yesterday and we have been told that more details will follow in the new year to confirm those, which I will share with you.

Please be reassured that our main priority remains on offering high support for our students at this challenging time for them.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Conley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that serves as a decorative underline.

Mrs Lucy Conley
SLATrust Executive Headteacher