

Hackney New School
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Headteacher: Charlotte Whelan

26th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As you may be aware from the media, the government has decided that GCSE examinations will be replaced by Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) in summer 2021. Please see here for further information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2021/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2021>.

How Centre Assessed Grades will be awarded

Your child's teachers will decide the CAGs for your child by **18th June 2021** using a range of evidence. The CAGs will go through a rigorous scrutiny process, being checked by subject leaders and senior leaders, before being finally checked by myself as DHT for curriculum and then signed off by Mrs Whelan as Head of Centre.

Students will be assessed using a variety of evidence as per recommended by the government guidance stated below:

- "Student work produced in response to assessment materials provided by the exam board, including groups of questions, past papers or similar materials such as practice or sample papers
- non-exam assessment (NEA) work (often referred to as coursework), even if this has not been fully completed
- student work produced in centre-devised tasks that reflect the specification, that follow the same format as exam board materials and have been marked in a way that reflects exam board mark schemes - this can include:
 - substantial class or homework (including those that took place during remote learning)
 - internal tests taken by pupils
 - mock exams taken over the course of study
- records of a student's capability and performance over the course of study in performance-based subjects such as music, drama and PE
- records of each student's progress and performance over the course of study"

Indicative Assessments Monday 19th April to Friday 30th April.

To also help inform the CAGs, your child will be sitting indicative assessments during the first two weeks after the Easter holidays from **Monday 19th April to Friday 30th April**. It is important that your child is revising fully for these assessments, which will also be used as evidence towards deciding your child's CAGs. Please ensure your child attends all the revision sessions our committed teachers will be providing during the Easter holidays. A separate letter from your child's Head of Learning Ms Douglas was emailed to you recently, detailing the revision sessions being offered.

We would like to reassure you that the outcomes from these assessments will not be the sole factor based on which grades will be awarded to students. Teachers will also use evidence as outlined in the above.

Year 11 finishing date

Finally Year 11 students will not be expected to attend school after the May half term holidays, with their last day of school being **Friday 28th May** (by date which our teachers will finish deciding CAGs for students, before they undergo quality assurance from the Senior Leadership Team). Until **Friday 28th May**, we expect all Year 11 children to attend each day, on time, to ensure they continue to work towards achieving the best possible CAGs, and because we are obliged to report attendance and punctuality to colleges.

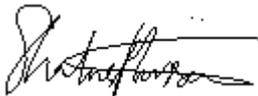
From **Monday 7th June**, Year 11 students will not have to attend school. However for those students who would like a quiet space to continue working on independent learning to consolidate any outstanding KOs (to best prepare them for post-16 options) we will provide a supervised independent learning space for the Year 11 leavers.

FAQs

If you would like any further information about CAGs - please see our school website for a FAQs document that is posted here: <https://www.hackneynewschoolcst.org/news/information-letters>.

I thank you in advance for your continued support in your child's education during these last few months of your child's secondary school education.

Yours faithfully



Mr Shahid Hussain
Deputy Headteacher