



St. Joseph's RC High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant

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Headteacher/Pennaeth: Mrs J Jarrett BA(Hons) M.A NPQH

17th March, 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Summer assessments 2021 for students in Year 10

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and that you, like me, are pleased that we are beginning a return back to normal school life. I realise that while we welcome a slow return to normality, this will be a time of some anxiety for pupils in examination years, and their families. I would like to reassure you of what your child will experience on their return to school.

Students in Year 10 will be completing most of their qualifications next year, at the end of Year 11. However, this year, your child will be completing one of their GCSEs. This will be GCSE English Literature. As Welsh Government cancelled all examinations for this year, the school will provide your child with a Centre-Determined Grade for English Literature.

I wanted to share with you some information about how your child's grade in English Literature will be determined this year.

Assessment arrangements for summer 2021

Each Centre-Determined Grade will be based on evidence gained in three ways:

1. A number of assessments completed during the summer term, taken from WJEC adapted past papers
2. Non-examined assessments (NEAs), most of which will already have been completed
3. Other assessed work from the rest of the course of study which can be used to confirm a grade

1. Assessments taken from WJEC adapted past papers

- During the first half of the summer term, Monday 12th April to Friday 28th May, in English, your child will undertake a number of short assessments.
- All the assessments will be utilising the papers adapted by the WJEC for the purpose of assessment 2021 where possible.
- These assessments are not examinations; they are opportunities for students to show the knowledge and skills they have developed during their course, to provide evidence for their teacher when determining their overall grade.

When will these assessments happen?

- Your child's assessments will be built into the English department's teaching and learning programme so that every student has several opportunities to show what they can do.
- The assessments will take place in their English lessons.

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- No Centre-Determined Grade will ever be based on one single assessment. There will be a number of assessments so that each student has a chance to show what they can do.
- Your child's teacher will explain what assessments they will be undertaking, when they will take place and how they fit into the teaching and learning programme.

2. Non-examined assessments (NEAs)

- In English Literature, your child will have completed an NEA on poetry and is currently completing an NEA on 'Romeo and Juliet'. This will be completed by Easter and will contribute towards their Centre-Determined Grade.
- Your child will receive all the necessary information about this from their teacher.

3. Other assessed work

- Other evidence which could contribute towards your child's Centre-Determined Grade may come from work they completed earlier in the course. This may be other WJEC past paper questions which have been completed under controlled conditions, earlier in the course.
- Other assessments completed during the whole course of study can be used to confirm a grade judgement, only.
- Your child will be told by their teacher which assessments have contributed to their Centre-Determined Grade.

What can you do to support your child?

Please reassure your child that their teachers want to give them every opportunity to show what they can do and that they must not regard these assessments as tests or examinations. Please encourage your child to speak to their English teacher if they have any worries or concerns about this assessment process.

What else does your child need to know?

Early next term, I will be able to share further information regarding our school approach to assessment.

If you have any questions or have any concerns, please contact us at school. You can contact me on jmorgan@sihs.newport.sch.uk. At present, I may not have all the answers to your questions but I will do whatever I can to help.

I would like to once again thank you for your support of your child's education. This has been such a challenging year and yet we will continue to do our best to ensure your child has the best educational experience we can provide.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Morgan
Deputy Headteacher

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