

Message From Mr Beeching about contingency plans for GCSEs

Recently, the Government has announced key information about the GCSE examinations in the summer. To be absolutely clear, the message is still that they expect examinations to go ahead. However, there has been a degree of contingency planning in the event that anything arises within the pandemic that would require this decision to be revisited. This was released before the latest information relating to the Omicron mutation and is therefore completely unrelated.

Primarily, if the Department for Education deemed that the students should not sit their exams, they will receive Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs), that would be dictated by key assessment points within the year.

It is crucial for the students to be aware that in the event of the GCSE examinations not going ahead, their PPEs after Christmas would represent the first of these assessment points. There will not be any content within the PPEs that students have not already studied in their courses up to the point of their exam. It is also crucial that the students know that the PPEs will not form the sole assessment piece and therefore the grade they get in their PPE is not likely to be exactly the same as any TAG, should that be the system next summer.

The key message is that the PPEs after Christmas are an important opportunity for the students to show their teachers what they are capable of. I do not want to put them under any further pressure, but it is important that they are aware of the connotations, should there be further developments with the pandemic.

The following message will also be displayed on our website for future reference. The students have already been shown the video and been issued the letter from Ofqual.

Arrangements for GCSE qualifications Summer 2022

The government is clear that students entering GCSEs in 2022 should expect to take exams in the summer and complete any NEA work in the usual way.

In recognition of the fact that as a student of, Brighton Hill Community School, your education has been disrupted by the pandemic, they will be giving extra help to prepare for the exams that you will be taking in the Summer and this can be found on the following link: [Proposed changes for 2022](#).

Please also be aware of the video and letter sent to students regarding the examinations and the protocol in place if there is any disruption to the Summer 2022 examination series.

Please watch the video link from the Chief regulator at Ofqual who will explain how this will look moving forward : [Chief regulator at Ofqual](#)

Along with the accompanying letter: [Letter to students](#).

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience,

Kind regards

Mr Peter Beeching
Assistant Headteacher and Head of Year 11
Brighton Hill Community School