

20 May 2021



# Ralph Allen School

Respect • Teamwork • Personal Best

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are nearing the end of the secondary phase of your son/daughter's education which seems to have gone all too fast. It has been a pleasure to watch your children grow into the wonderful people they are now. Their path has been different as the last few years have been very difficult for the whole community and we recognise that the students have had to contend with a great deal of change and uncertainty. Despite all these difficulties they have been resilient and persevered through the challenges.

Below is some final key information.

## Assessments

We have been guided by offering the best opportunities for our students to succeed. To do this we will be using a broad range of evidence to support the grade. This includes.

- *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*

No one piece of evidence or examination will indicate the final grade for a student. Each grade will be because of a number of pieces in each area.

These have included formal assessments using unseen materials that will be provided by each examining board.

Headteacher: Andy Greenhough BSC (Hons) | Deputy Headteacher: John Chantry BA (Hons)

Claverton Down Road, Bath, BA2 7AD | Telephone: 01225 832936 | E-mail: [enquiries@ralphallenschool.com](mailto:enquiries@ralphallenschool.com) | [www.ralphallenschool.com](http://www.ralphallenschool.com)

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## Parent communication

This is a very difficult process, and we ask that parents do not enquire about the final grades that will be awarded. We are not at liberty to divulge these grades and teachers should not be put under pressure about final grades.

## Moderation and standardisation

Each department will moderate the work in their subject and teachers will mark samples of each other's work. All decisions will be made with another member of staff and verified by the Head of subject. The extra Inset day was vital in supporting this process.

## Results days

**AS and A level** - Tuesday 10 August

**GCSE** – Thursday 12 August

Further information will be received but we anticipate that these will be collected in school. Results will be shown on Insight later in the day for those who cannot attend.

## Appeals

If a student is unhappy with their grade, they can.

- Firstly, ask if a clerical error has been made
- If no error has been made, they can ask the school to appeal on their behalf. This will involve showing the process and the evidence they used to make their judgement.
- If they are still unsuccessful an Autumn series will be available

## End of Term 5

The final day for year 11 students will be Friday 28 May. All assessments will be completed by this date. This final day will be a last chance to celebrate their time at Ralph Allen. The outline of the day is shown below.

- Period 1 and period 2 - A choice of activities from T-shirt making to pamper café followed by a final assembly in period 3.
- The students will then have their lunch together in the new Dining Hall and will leave the site at 1.10pm. The school buses will still be leaving at 3.15pm as normal. If this is the only method of transport, we will provide a space for students to wait until the end of the day.

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## Term 6

No further work can be submitted to support final grade calculation at this point. Grades will be entered and checked before the final submittance date on Friday 18 June. Bridging units will be placed on the website and on Microsoft Teams for students to complete. These are to support next steps. Work includes A-level subjects and colleges.

Ralph Allen Induction to Sixth Form is Wednesday 23 June. Full details will be sent out in term 6.

## Final message

Teachers at Ralph Allen are in such a privileged position that we can work with your sons and daughters. This is why we are all in education to support, nurture and challenge, in cooperation with parents, to prepare students for final assessments and to make a positive contribution to society.

I always have mixed feelings at this point. I am happy that the students have matured and become the people they are, but we also have to say goodbye to some. This is only the beginning of their journey though and exciting in many ways. Wherever life takes them we wish them luck and ask that they check in from time to time to update on their journey.

Thank you for choosing Ralph Allen for this part of their education. They have been awesome and genuinely have enriched our lives.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Greenhough', enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

**Andy Greenhough**

**Headteacher**

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