



**Magna Academy**

**Poole**

an Aspirations Academy

Principal: Ms N Ullah

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30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As detailed in previous communications the government confirmed that this summer, students taking GCSE, A levels and vocational qualifications regulated by Ofqual, will be awarded grades based on an assessment by their teachers. The 2021 exams approach requires schools to submit grades by 18th June 2021. This process requires considerable staff resources and in practice, work done after the May half term will not contribute towards their grades. This is because the academy in conjunction with the Trust, will undergo a variety of quality assurance steps after May half term, ensuring that students are awarded teacher assessed grades that are fair, consistent and reflect the evidence that they have produced for our teachers. This robust process is vital prior to submitting the final grades before Friday 18th June.

Historically many schools usually incorporate a period of independent study leave in the summer term for Year 11 students as exams approach. We appreciate the needs of our students will be different to previous cohorts due to the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, we have worked hard to provide a range of valuable activities to engage our Year 11 leavers in the second half of the summer term.

Year 11 students that have applied for Magna Academy Sixth Form will be provided with a Sixth Form transition pack containing subject specific advanced level preparation tasks, guidance on how to succeed in each task, and a range of supporting materials. It is expected that tasks are completed fully by students throughout June and July, for submission on entry into Magna Academy Sixth Form in September 2021.

In addition, these students will be invited to attend the academy to undertake a transition programme during the week commencing 5th July. Further details will be provided by Mrs Rodgers (Assistant Principal Sixth Form) in the coming weeks. We kindly ask that students keep this week free.

Students that have made applications to other Post-16 providers and are certain they will not continue into Magna Academy Sixth Form will be provided with a core remote learning package via Google Classroom. They are also very welcome to access and utilise the Magna

Academy Sixth Form transition materials in order to aid their preparation for their next steps.

Students that have not yet made an application or do not yet have firm Post-16 plans can email Mrs Stafford (Assistant Principal Futures and Community) [kstafford@magna-aspirations.org](mailto:kstafford@magna-aspirations.org) to make an appointment to discuss options and make an application. In the meantime, all Year 11 students have registered on an online careers support programme called Careerpilot. Once registered on the site students can access a vast amount of information about different educational pathways and career choices. Parents can also register on Careerpilot by going to the website [www.careerpilot.org.uk](http://www.careerpilot.org.uk) where you can use the parent zone to access a wide variety of videos and information to support your son/daughter with their next steps, if they are still uncertain.

The government has not changed the legislation that governs compulsory school age. As usual, students cease to be of compulsory school age on the last Friday of June in the year in which they turn 16. This means that students are not legally required to engage in these activities if they do not wish to do so after this date.

You will have noticed that there is documentation accompanying this letter, which gives further information regarding the determining of the summer 2021 teacher assessed grades. This includes our centre policy, which has been authorised by Aspirations Academies Trust and approved by our exam board. Within this policy you will see details of how we will ensure that teacher assessed grades reflect your child's work, ensuring that they have been determined fairly, based on the evidence that we have. In addition to this, we have also included our appeals policy which you may wish to refer to after your child has received their final teacher assessed grades. Both of these documents are brought together with the third attachment, Guidance for students, parents and guardians: Summer 2021. This has been produced by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) and an important read for all parents and carers. Due to the guidance from JCQ, we will not be updating families now with a final working at grade on a report, as originally communicated.

On Friday 14th May, your child will receive their statement of entry for summer 2021. This is an opportunity for you to check that your child's details are accurate. At the same time, they will receive a candidate confirmation form to read and sign, which will explain in detail what evidence has been used for each of their subjects to determine their final teacher assessed grades. A copy will remain in the academy with us and a copy will be taken home for you to see. All of the documents that I have mentioned can be found on our website in this location <https://www.magna-aspirations.org/students/exams-and-support/>.



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The final academy day for Year 11 will be Thursday 27th May. Mrs Cook will organise a barbecue after school on the Thursday out on our back terrace. All of Year 11 are welcome to attend and celebrate their time with us at Magna Academy. Year 11 will not attend the academy after this day. Mrs Cook will share details with students of this event in the coming weeks. Your child should return their Magna Academy textbooks to their subject teachers, during their final week with us. As a reminder Year 11 will receive their GCSE results on Thursday 12th August, further details will be shared with you next half term.

We have been incredibly proud of how Year 11 have responded to such an unconventional final year of secondary education. They returned from the national lockdown extremely focused and determined, rising to the challenges presented to them. We wish them every success over the coming weeks and believe they have a bright future ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Ms N Ullah  
Principal



Mr A Potter  
Vice Principal



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